



COMMUNITY SAMPLING COORDINATOR

Position Type: Part-time temporary employee, non-exempt, hourly basis

Location: Chicago; with both in-person and virtual work required

Reports to: Technical Program Director & Technical Program Manager

Compensation: \$25-\$28 per hour depending on experience, plus paid-time off accrual

Employment term: Temporary position starting August 11th

Weekly Hours: Up to 30 hours per week

To apply: Complete our online application form available [at this link](#). *Please don't forget to upload a resume.*

JOB DESCRIPTION

Current is seeking a part-time Community Sampling Coordinator to support our sampling team's efforts in Chicago. This temporary role, effective from August 11, 2025, involves field sampling activities, including driving to sampling sites, collecting wastewater and river water samples, and ensuring appropriate handling and storage of the samples during transportation. The coordinator will work closely with the Technical Program Director, Technical Program Manager, and other Sampling Coordinators to achieve project objectives.

As a collaborative organization, we work with a wide range of impact-oriented practitioners. We need a team player who relishes the challenges of working across technical domains, sectors, and issues.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Learn and execute sampling protocols for the Wastewater Based Epidemiology (WBE) program, which includes working in a two-person team, driving to designated sampling sites throughout Chicago, opening sewer manholes, and collecting wastewater samples.
- Learn and execute sampling protocols for the H2NOW Chicago, a real-time microbial water quality monitoring program, which includes working in a two-person team, driving to designated river monitoring locations along the Chicago and Calumet Rivers, operating a grab sample apparatus, and collecting river water samples from a bridge or riverbank.
- Ensure adherence to all quality control, quality assurance, and safety procedures are followed by the entire team.
- Work closely with the Technical Program Director, Technical Program Manager, and other Sampling Coordinators to set and adjust sampling objectives and schedule as needed.

- Participate in weekly project planning and staff meetings, both in-person and remote, to strategize and troubleshoot potential issues.
- Work with Current's partners to facilitate equipment installation and/or replacement for both the WBE and H2NOW programs.
- Identify and address any issues that may arise during sampling activities, demonstrating quick thinking and effective problem-solving skills. Collaborate with team members to resolve challenges and maintain project efficiency.
- As needed, assist with the setup of educational programming activities and ensure seamless integration of any sampling equipment needed for demonstrations.
- Support Current's Workforce Development Director in workforce training and development initiatives. Assist in the implementation of training pathways for team members to enhance their skills and knowledge in environmental sampling procedures.

QUALIFICATIONS

- High school graduate or equivalent (GED)
- Some level of professional training comparable to an associate degree and/or sufficient work experience.
- Valid driver's license with a clean driving record.
- An interest in public health, environmental protection, and public-interest technology is a bonus.

SKILLS

- Ability to drive an 18 ft, fully electric passenger van.
- Ability to lift weights exceeding 50 lbs.
- Comfortable handling sewage with appropriate safety measures.
- Strong organizational, communication, and problem-solving skills.
- Familiarity with safety protocols and procedures is preferred.
- Ability to install and use various apps on your phone such as Google Maps and Slack.
- Proficiency in using Google calendar and basic understanding of Excel is a bonus.

BENEFITS OF THE ROLE

- Collaboration with renowned institutions and experts in the field.
- Competitive hourly compensation with paid-time off accrual.

WHO WE ARE

Current is a catalyst for better, cleaner water. Founded in Chicago in 2016, we bring together corporations, other nonprofits, and governments to develop water management policies and test new technologies — projects that would be too risky or even impossible for any one group to undertake alone. We are a water innovation hub, and we are growing fast - because water is no longer an issue; it's a crisis. Our health and environment hang in the balance.

WHY WORK WITH CURRENT?

The world's persistent water problems — from agriculture run-off to lead in drinking water — won't be solved by any one government, scientist, or company alone. And, unfortunately, people are not rallying fast enough behind new technologies and ideas that will protect our health and

environment. Current monitors, evaluates, and helps bring to market new ideas and technology in water management. This equips Current to work with utilities, research institutions, businesses, and innovators to test new solutions. In this way, Current serves as a connector, a research partner, and an advocate.

Emerging technologies and approaches to improve the quality and availability of our water need advocates and experts who can rally stakeholders and get things done. Current works with leaders willing to take risks and collaborate to solve persistent water challenges and helps bring practical and visionary ideas to life. Our job is to build partnerships that fuel discovery and deployment of new solutions. This involves encouraging risk-averse companies and governments alike to find new ways to tackle some of the most daunting challenges we face in our environment and society: ensuring access to clean, fresh drinking water; managing flooding and other impacts of climate change; using wastewater to provide early warnings for viral outbreaks like SARS COV-2.

What do Current's team members love about working at Current?

- Working on high-impact projects and knowing that our work is contributing solutions to major environmental and economic challenges
- Opportunities to connect with high-level leaders across multiple industries. Valuable network building and learning
- Collaborating with others who share a passion for water, the environment, and creating economic opportunity
- Flexible working hours and environment and respect for life-work balance
- A culture that is open, collaborative, collegial, and continuously improving
- The start-up energy of our organization, fluid and dynamic and evolving

OUR VALUES

Our values build the foundation of our organizational culture; our values ground and support us and our efforts to deliver on Current's mission.

- **Collaboration.** Current knows that reaching consensus and building trust are key aspects of maintaining and improving our access to clean water. This requires diplomacy and communication to gain the needed insights from a wide variety of project partners. Our work is powered by partnerships. Collaboration begins with listening and setting tables where diverse views, perspectives, and needs can be shared safely in the spirit of developing common solutions.
- **Creativity and Innovation.** Creativity and innovation require environments where diverse perspectives and ideas can be freely shared and debated. Everyone on our team should feel the freedom to question, to learn, to experiment, and to fail.
- **Expertise.** Current maintains a sophisticated understanding of the state of the art in water technology. This field of study changes every day, requiring both deep knowledge and a willingness to adjust our understanding based on new discoveries.
- **Inclusion.** To solve persistent water challenges and build a stronger blue economy, we need diverse perspectives on both problems and solutions. We value diversity in our team

and among our partners, at our tables and in our audiences. We strive to ensure that our work benefits our community. Chicago is home to more than 400 large companies, including 36 in the Fortune 500 and 31 in the S&P 500.

- **Independence.** Current is a nonprofit that is not beholden to any stakeholders but rather has established a mission of advocating for sustainable water solutions that help the public at large.
- **Justice.** We acknowledge that justice – racial justice, social justice, economic justice, gender justice – is fundamental to our work of building a healthier economy and environment. We aim to identify the injustices that create barriers to our work, and to make diligent strides to remedy them.
- **Risk-rational.** Current is not an advocate for the status quo. It's an advocate for the wise use of water to sustain the Earth's population — a mission that requires us to think big and act aggressively to see what works and what doesn't. If we're waiting for guarantees that a new approach will work, we'll never try anything different. Rational risk-taking is part of our ethos.
- **Sustainability.** Through our work and in our daily practices, we strive to conserve and reuse our natural resources, to meet present needs with minimal cost to future generations.

PARTNER PROMISES

We promise to discover and promote new approaches and technologies. A combination of well defined mission and professional curiosity drive us to find and share the best answers for difficult problems.

We promise to challenge old thinking. One of Current's primary missions is to break through bureaucratic and cultural intransigence to press the government and businesses to do better.

We promise to keep an open mind: Current believes that attitude and outlook are important. Being receptive to new ideas is the only way to truly stay at the forefront of new developments in water use.

We promise to be a strong partner. Current takes a hands-on approach to the projects it chooses and also makes a long-term investment in them.

We promise to take care of our environment. Current is in the sustainability business. We never forget the fact that today's decisions can have major impacts in the world that people encounter decades from now.

We promise to be an unbiased advocate for the best water solutions. While we work with many partners, our greatest duty is to the public at large and their quality of life. We will always be an honest broker.

Intrigued? Complete our online application form available [at this link](#). ***Please don't forget to upload a resume.***