

WHY Innovative Weather?

Program founders Paul Roebber and Mike Westendorf want to help students succeed. Innovative Weather is staffed by upper-level atmospheric science students at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. By providing customized forecasts for clients, these interns will exceed academically and professionally in the field of meteorology.

Did you know?

Innovative Weather is one of the only programs in the nation to provide hands-on forecasting experience to atmospheric science students. This program provides a unique service to businesses seeking quality weather information.

Internship opportunity

UWM atmospheric science students have the opportunity to advance their meteorology skills through an internship with Innovative Weather. An internship can turn into a paid position. The knowledge these students gain will carry over to a professional career in weather forecasting.

Placement after graduation

Students gain one to three years of weather forecasting experience with Innovative Weather. UWM alumni and former Innovative Weather students have found full-time employment with companies such as the National Weather Service and private forecasting firms.

Geographic

Although predominantly in Southeast Wisconsin, Innovative Weather also reaches as far as Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio and Iowa.



About: Dr. Paul Roebber, Initiative Administrator

Roebber, UWM atmospheric science professor and synoptic meteorology researcher, founded Innovative Weather in 2007. He recognized student's passion for operational meteorology. Roebber wanted to provide learning and earning opportunities for UWM atmospheric science students.



About: Mike Westendorf, Director of Operations

Westendorf is a UWM alumnus and founder of the Atmospheric Science Club at UWM. With ten years of professional meteorology experience under his belt, he is responsible for the day-to-day business of Innovative Weather. He trains meteorology student interns, runs client recruitment and helps with general operations.

Student testimonials

Dawn Kopacz, UWM graduate student and Innovative Weather research assistant

"I have learned how to make weather forecasts that are tailored to a client's specific needs, consulted directly with clients, and developed the skills needed to share my forecasts with a radio listening audience. This program helped me develop confidence in myself as an individual as well as a meteorologist"

MIKE KURZ, UWM ALUMNUS AND FORMER STAFF OF INNOVATIVE WEATHER

Working in a professional setting geared towards your area of study and interacting with real-world clients is often a rare opportunity for a college student. Innovative Weather gives meteorology students a chance to do both while developing valuable working skills that will aid them as they enter the workplace after college.

NICK SCHWARTZ, UWM ALUMNUS AND FORMER STAFF OF INNOVATIVE WEATHER

As a current job seeker, words can not describe enough how important it is for students to invest in their experience as early as possible to make them a viable candidate when they graduate and enter the job market. I was able to lay a solid foundation for myself as well as current and future students that go through the Innovative Weather program, which offers paid experience to students that provide them with valuable skills that they can use when they launch their career.