



Ryan Klaus

Manager, Green Finance, Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund

Position with Firm

2025–present *Manager, Green Finance, Clean Energy Jobs and Justice Fund (CEJF)*. Leads financial strategy, product development, and capital deployment in support of CEJF’s mission to utilize innovative financing to make clean energy and its benefits accessible to all Illinois residents. Executes, evaluates, and monitors transactions and manages relationships with financial institution partners.

Previous Professional Experience

2022–2025 *Senior Project Officer, Clean Energy Finance, New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA)*, Newark, New Jersey. Evaluated and structured project finance transactions for the New Jersey Green Bank (NJGB), a subsidiary of the NJEDA focused on investing in projects aligned with New Jersey’s climate goals. Led the development of key materials (e.g., underwriting guidelines, investment policies, financial budgets and forecasts) needed to operationalize the NJGB and helped secure \$241 million in initial capitalization funding.

2019–2021 *Innovative Finance Analyst, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago*, Chicago, Illinois. Developed financial models to project the viability of new strategies in early learning, financial inclusion, workforce development, mergers and acquisitions, and affordable housing. Assessed growth opportunities for existing programs. Evaluated opportunities to leverage impact investor capital for the organization’s strategic initiatives. Conducted financial analysis that informed executive leadership’s operational decision-making and fundraising targets.

Education University of Notre Dame, BBA in Finance with a minor in Poverty Studies, magna cum laude

Princeton University, MPA with a certificate in Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy

Activities

- Board Officer, New Jersey Green Bank (2024–2025)
- Impact Investing Advisory Council, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago (2019–2023)
- Associate, Princeton Center for Policy Research on Energy and the Environment (2022–2023)
- Associate, Julis-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy and Finance (2021–2023)

- Associate Board Member, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (2019–2021)
- Project Volunteer and Member, Chi Hack Night (2019–2021)
- Selected Participant, Baumhart Center Impact Leaders Series (2019–2020)
- Selected Participant, Chicago200 (2019)

Awards

- Frederick Harbison Memorial Fellow for Outstanding Academic Performance, Princeton University, 2023
- Staff Award for Excellence, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, 2020

Certifications

- Credit and Credit Risk Analysis, New York Institute of Finance
- Battery Storage Financial Modeling, Pivotal180
- Renewable Energy Project Finance Modeling, Pivotal180