

Frequently Asked Questions – College Internships

- **How long does the internship last?**
 - There are two internship sessions per year: Fall and Spring. Time varies based on need and availability.
- **Where do D.C. interns usually live?**
 - We do not provide housing. There are many different options for interns who wish to stay in D.C. There are hostels, apartments and cooperative programs with other Universities who have internship programs. The D.C. office will assist in answering further questions you may have about housing.
- **Are the internships paid?**
 - Interns serving in the Washington, D.C. office receive a stipend.
- **If I am selected to serve an internship in the Washington, D.C., office, will there be ample time to visit the many historical sites and attractions in our nation's Capitol?**
 - D.C. interns work Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, leaving the rest of the time to be used at their discretion when there are no mandatory after hour events. We encourage interns to explore as much as possible while in D.C.
- **Will this internship help me if I would like to apply for a job?**
 - We have an excellent track record of job placements for interns who work with our office. Chances are high that, if you excel in your role as an intern, you will gain invaluable experience and be very marketable. However, it does not guarantee a position.
- **How important is my GPA and major?**
 - This internship is valuable to all types of students, regardless of major. There is no minimum GPA that we consider. The intern director works hard to get to know those who apply during our selection process so that we can select interns who will work and interact well with the Senator's staff. A perfect knowledge of government proceedings is not a pre-requisite, but a desire to work hard, be personable and learn is.
- **What is a typical day like for a D.C. intern?**
 - D.C. interns start at 9:00 AM every day, receive a one-hour lunch break and are finished working at 6:00 PM. They work hard, performing a multitude of tasks. We place a great amount of trust in our interns.
- **Are interns required to adhere to a dress code?**
 - Dress is business professional. When the Senate is in session, suit jackets and ties are required. During state work periods and/or when the Senate is in a period of recess, business casual is acceptable. No jeans are allowed.
- **What type of work does an intern do?**
 - Interns have several different areas in which they assist the Senator and her staff. Throughout the internship experience interns have different areas of responsibility. Some examples of previous intern tasks include administrative tasks, writing constituent letters, conducting U.S. Capital tours, and legislative research.
- **I am in high school; can I be an intern in Washington, D.C.?**
 - Yes. Please see the information on our high school intern program for graduating seniors.

- **I am a married student. Can I still apply for an internship?**
 - Absolutely, all students are welcome to apply.
- **I am not a U.S. citizen or resident, but am currently studying at a U.S. university; can I apply?**
 - We cannot accept non-US citizens as interns or employees.
- **My university requires that I take classes during the week. Can I work part-time?**
 - Interns complete a lot of work in our offices. It is critical that we have the appropriate number of interns to get the work done. The Intern Director will work with you to see if a part-time schedule can be accommodated.
- **I am not from Alaska. Can I apply?**
 - Yes, however, preference is given to Alaska natives and residents.
- **I am a mathematics major; do I have a chance, or do you only hire political science majors?**
 - We look for the best and brightest students. As long as you are willing to work hard, you may apply. In fact, in many situations, a particular area of expertise, such as biology, math or economics, will make you the ideal intern for completing legislative research and projects in those areas.
- **Do I have to seek credit to be considered for an internship?**
 - No, the decision to seek credit is up to the student. As long as you meet the minimum application requirements, you may apply.
- **When can I expect to hear from you after the application deadline?**
 - Candidates will be contacted on receipt of their completed application after the internship deadline. The Intern Director will be in further communication if the office wishes to interview the candidate. Our goal is to hire all interns within approximately four to six weeks after the application deadline