

2014/2015 Political Internship Opportunities

This list comprises the sites that the department knows will take applications for internships. *The deadline for the state legislature is 11/1/14.* Some of these sites have formal applications that specify faculty recommendations and others require cover letters and resumes. It is possible, however, to set up internships at other sites. Doing so requires a different process of personal contact both on your part and the department. Please see Dr. Salka immediately if you have an interest in an internship other than one on this list. Also, let me know your plans even in you contact the site yourself so we can do the required University paperwork. My contact information is below.

Connecticut General Assembly

Students working in the Connecticut general assembly are assigned as individual staff members to a state legislator or legislators. Responsibilities typically include constituent service, issue research, bill tracking, committee hearings and public hearings. There is a formal application that is due on November 1, so please see Dr. Salka before October 15.

American Federation of Teachers

This is a lobbying position with AFT for the spring semester when the legislature is in session. Students receive hands on experience in the legislature from the advocacy perspective, dealing with a host of issue relevant to the education in Connecticut. Interested students should contact Dr. Salka for more information.

Institute for Sustainable Energy, ECSU

Eastern's Institute for Sustainable Energy needs interns to assist them with both their policy/research agenda as well as their legislative agenda. Some internship possibilities are paid, but those would not be eligible for credit. Whether you are interested in paid or unpaid internships through the ISE, please contact Laura Stoddard directly at 465-0253 or stoddardl@easterct.edu.

Congressional Offices

Every member of Congress (House and Senate) in Connecticut will take interns in their state/district office. All members have online application processes. Please see Dr. Salka regarding members of Congress if you cannot find the application online.

Connecticut Commission on Children

Interns in this office would be working on policy development and research on model policy related to children in CT. Interested students should send a message to the Commission at: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/coc/contact.htm>

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD)

DECD has internships opportunities available in three different areas: Office of Military Affairs, Office of Responsible Development and Government Relations. Please see the website for job descriptions as they differ quite a bit from each other: <http://www.ct.gov/ecd/cwp/view.asp?a=1568&q=305810>. The website also provides you with application instructions.

Connecticut Secretary of State

The election division of the secretary of state's office has a variety of internship opportunities available including assisting in the regulation of elections. For of specific opportunities, see Dr. Salka.

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Interns with the Connecticut department of environmental protection work in a variety of ways to help complete the mission of the agency—to enforce all state environmental protection law. Students are typically involved in a variety of regulatory projects, including policy development. For more information, go to their website or email: dep.aao@ct.gov.

Department of Public Health

The Department of Public Health, charged with regulating all aspects of health from aspects of the environment, to workplaces to disease outbreaks has internships available in their government relations office. Students generally work on assisting the office in developing and implementing their legislative agenda. The application can be found online at www.state.ct.us/dph, click on agency service directory, click on office of government relations, click on internships.

Governor's Office

Students working in the Governor's office generally work at the Capitol in Hartford and do a mix of constituent service, bill tracking, press relations and legislative advocacy. To apply, please see Dr. Salka.

Judicial Branch

The Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut has internships either in the court or probation system. Students particularly interested in the criminal justice system should consider this one. You can find the CT Judicial Branch internship form at their website: <http://jud.ct.gov/external/news/jobs/intern.htm>.

Lobbying Groups

Generally, a number of private lobbying firms will accept interns to help them lobby the state legislature on behalf of clients. See Dr. Salka for contact information.

New York State Legislature

The state of New York has legislative internships that include a \$3500 per year stipend to help students pay for housing in Albany, New York. Responsibilities typically include constituent service, issue research, bill tracking, committee hearings and public hearings. Interested students should see Dr. Salka.

Office of Policy and Management (OPM)

OPM functions as the Governor's staff agency and plays a central role in state government, providing the information and analysis used to formulate public policy for the State. This agency works on: preparing the Governor's budget proposal and implementing the execution of the budget as adopted by the General Assembly; analyzing and assessing the financial, programmatic, and legislative proposals of State agencies, the General Assembly, and the federal government; coordinating/leading interagency problem-solving efforts. You may get more information about OPM at: <http://www.opm.state.ct.us/default.htm> or contact Marisa Lindsay, Office of the Secretary, Marisa.Lindsay@ct.gov.

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

The Permanent Commission is a governmental agency charged with keeping records of and advocating policy related to the status of women in Connecticut. Student's working with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women generally do research and assist in implementing the organizations broader agenda. Application and other contact information are available at the website: http://www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw/Internship%20Program/intern_program.asp

State Elections Enforcement Commission

The SEEC oversees campaign fundraising and spending, as well as Connecticut's Citizens' Election Program which provides public funds to candidates for statewide and legislative offices. Interns work in their Hartford office doing various tasks, from helping analyze data on public funding candidates to auditing election reports. Contact Dr. Salka if you are interested in this opportunity.

Sullivan & LeShane

Sullivan and LeShane is a government and public relations firms that provides legislative, administrative, and municipal lobbying to various corporations in CT such as Coca Cola, CT State Medical Society and Verizon. Students will assist with bill tracking, legislative monitoring, public hearing sign ups, data collection and research. Students will serve as a link between the office and the lobbyists at the Legislative Office Building or the Capitol. Flexible Schedule with early mornings and evening available. Reliable transportation necessary. 3-5 days per week commitment required. Stipend for transportation available. E-mail cover letter and resume to Nathan Wilson at nwilson@ctlobby.com.

Connecticut Democratic and Republican Parties

Both state party organizations offer internship opportunities. For more information, go to their websites:
Connecticut Democratic Party: <http://ctdems.org/get-involved/state-party-job-and-internship-opportunities/>
Connecticut Republican Party: <http://www.ctgop.org/>

State/Local/Law Political Science Internship Contact Information

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