WHAT IS THE LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM?

Arizona’s legislative body convenes into session on the second Monday of January every year to discuss, evaluate, and vote on the state’s most pressing issues. Students from every degree area in every major university across the state are invited to apply for 50 paid intern positions in state government including the State Senate, House of Representatives, Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General and the State Supreme Court.

WHAT DOES THIS INTERNSHIP OFFER ME?

Quite a bit, actually. This is a paid internship that offers you academic credit hours and waives your spring tuition while you gain experience working at the Capitol in Phoenix. Interns receive a $4,700 stipend for their 18 weeks of service. Undergraduate interns receive 12 units, honors interns may receive up to 15 units, and graduate interns receive 9 non-degree seeking units. Interns also have their spring 2017 tuition waived; tuition waivers cannot be transferred or reimbursed.

WHAT WILL I DO AS A LEGISLATIVE INTERN?

The Legislative Internship Program is unlike traditional internships. Legislative interns provide assistance to state senators, representatives, executive leadership and their support staff. Specific duties include researching legislation, drafting bill summaries, and presenting before committee. Duties will vary from one agency or branch of government to another. Interns may also be asked to work alongside policy advisors on special projects, speak with legislative members or committees on specific issues, and address questions from policymakers.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

You understand the value of an internship. But you want more than a traditional internship. You want to be challenged, expand your network and help make a difference in this world. This paid internship will give you the tools you need to boost your career, regardless of your major. Welcome to a whole new type of internship.
WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM’S REQUIREMENTS?

Students interested in applying to this program must be on track to complete at least 75 units of credit by the end of the 2016 fall semester. Additionally, students must have a 3.0 Grade Point Average at the time of application submission. You must be a student at the time of your application. You must also be eligible to work in the U.S. and be enrolled as a full-time student during the course of the internship.

HOW MANY AGENCIES CAN I APPLY TO?

The Legislative Internship Program encourages and invites students to apply to all five programs: the State Senate, House of Representatives, Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General and the State Supreme Court. Students gain invaluable work experience and networking opportunities regardless of agency. Save the trees, please use one application when applying to more than one agency or branch of government.

WHEN ARE THESE INTERNSHIPS OFFERED?

Legislative internships are only offered during the spring each year due to the Arizona State Legislature’s session calendar. Legislative sessions begin at noon on the second Monday of January with the Governor’s State of the State Address and continue until the end of session, or sine die. Internships typically run for no more than 18 weeks unless students are offered extensions or full-time positions by their agency.

IS THIS INTERNSHIP ONLY FOR SPECIFIC DEGREE MAJORS?

Nope. The Arizona State Legislature in some way affects every aspect of your life in this state. With over 15 committees in the House and Senate, the Legislature has a place for every student regardless of their interest or major. Previous knowledge or experience with state government and the legislative process is not required; interns undergo one week of orientation prior to the start of the program.

WHAT IF I AM GRADUATING THIS SEMESTER?

You might have the most to win from this program. Undergraduate students applying for this program in their final semester are still eligible. Graduate students applying for this program in their final semester are only eligible if they extend their academic plan, as all interns are required to be enrolled as full-time students at the University of Arizona.

WHEN IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?

Students interested in any one of the agencies listed above are required to complete and submit their application, and all required attachments, by 5:00 pm on September 23, 2016. Applications are available at: www.arizona.edu/reallworldintern. You will be required to attach the following documents:

- 2 Letters of Recommendation
- Personal Statement (300 words or less)
- Unofficial University Transcript
- Current Resume