Internships

Summer 2015 Application Deadline: March 27, 2015


The Institute for Policy Studies is the nation’s oldest and largest multi-issue think tank promoting progressive thought.

IPS is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and encourages applications from people of color, women, and other groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.

Please Note: Our Application Process has Changed

Summer 2015 Next Leaders Program

Calling all emerging change-makers!

The Institute for Policy Studies seeks dedicated young folks hungry for systemic transformation to join our Next Leaders Summer Program. Let’s be clear—this isn’t your typical summer internship. The world crisis in governance, economic stability, and ethical guidance demands that we do our best to prepare to secure and sustain a more just, green, and peaceful future starting, well, yesterday. The Next Leaders Program aims to compel action by sharpening young voices and new ideas through training in public scholarship, a term we define as the connection between policy research and grassroots activism. Team up with us for this 10 week program, and you can forget fetching coffee and filing folders!

The Institute for Policy Studies is strengthened by the diversity of our network and our differences in background, culture, experience, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, and much more. We strongly encourage applications from people of color, women, the LGBTQIA community, and other groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.

THE EXPERIENCE

Our program is broken into 3 parts:

1. **Workshop and Events Series** – We’ve prepared a curriculum of weekly workshops and events geared toward the following:
   - Building community within your cohort
   - Sparking inter-generational dialogue to brainstorm around new organizing methods and pressure points in the policy world
   - Sharing skills needed to become a successful public scholar
2. **Mentorship** – Each participant will get hands-on experience by working on one of our projects and will receive individualized mentorship and training from one of our IPS public scholars. Participants will be selected to work on a topic in one of the following focus areas:

- **Inequality, Poverty, Wealth**
- **New Economy**
- **Worker Rights and Immigration**
- **Demilitarization, Peace, and Diplomacy**
- **Communication and Events**
- **Environment and Sustainability**

3. **Coalition Lab** – You’ll have a chance to put your ideas into action through campaign-oriented projects in partnership with our allies and your other fellow participants. Through these projects you’ll not only get plugged into the larger progressive network, but you’ll also learn the important skills of coalition building and developing a work plan.

**COMPENSATION AND ACADEMIC CREDIT**

While we’re psyched about the training experience we’re offering, we also know that you can’t pay for groceries with experience; therefore, we offer a maximum stipend of $3,800 to offset the cost of working with IPS while you help us build the future of the progressive movement.

IPS firmly believes that financial barriers shouldn’t exclude people from internship opportunities. However, we strongly encourage applicants to find resources through their schools and other scholarships. Many schools offer assistance for summer internship programs, and we ask that all applicants explore those options first in order to allow us to accept a greater number of interns that do not have access to those resources.

Interns may also receive academic credit. IPS offers transportation assistance of 8$ per day but does not offer housing assistance.

### WHEN TO APPLY, IMPORTANT DATES, AND INTERNSHIP TERM

**Summer 2015 Application Deadline: March 27, 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 1-15</td>
<td>Applicants will be notified of their acceptance during this time period. Only applicants who have been selected for interviews will be contacted.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1, 2015</td>
<td>Internship begins</td>
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<td>August 7, 2015</td>
<td>Internship ends</td>
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Interns are expected to be available Mon-Thurs (30 hours per week) at a minimum. Please state your availability on your application. While we can offer some flexibility, we want to plan our workshop series with the highest level of attendance possible.
HOW TO APPLY

Part 1: Please fill out the application form found here.

Part 2: When you’ve submitted your form, please send your resume and a 2-page writing sample to nextleaders@ips-dc.org with “Next Leaders Application” in the subject line. For your writing sample, we say, go wild! This can be a blog piece, an essay excerpt, a letter to the editor for a newspaper, an article in your school’s newspaper, etc.

Feel free to provide a couple sentences of context if you’re excerpting your selection from a larger piece. The important thing is for us to get a sense of something you’re passionate about…oh, and, we’d love to see if you can string a sentence together too.