Becoming a Federal Scientist

A Guide to Applying for Jobs, Internships, and Fellowships

Appendix: Resources for Searching for Federal Jobs, Developing Application Materials, and Understanding Federal Application Processes

www.ucsusa.org/resources/federal-science-jobs

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General Resources

A–Z Index of U.S. Government Departments and Agencies
- Lists of and links to homepages of all US government department and agencies

Internships, Fellowships, and Other Work Experience Opportunities in the Federal Government
- A comprehensive listing from the Congressional Research Service of internships, fellowships, and other opportunities available in the federal government

GoGovernment from the Partnership for Public Service
- A wide range of advice about applying for federal positions, from searching for the right position on USAJobs.gov to negotiating a final offer

GovLoop
- Free trainings and other resources on a suite of government topics and issues, including tips and advice for prospective applicants
- Regular postings featuring federal job opportunities across multiple agencies and at various skill levels

Office of Personnel and Management Hiring Information Webpage
- Information on multiple topics regarding federal hiring, including hiring authorities available to veterans, students, interns, and persons with disabilities

Office of Personnel and Management Pathways Program
- Information on internship and fellowship opportunities via the Pathways Program, an FAQ, and a list of opportunities in participating federal agencies
- Three pathways for students depending on interests and eligibility: the Internship Program for current students; the Recent Graduates Program for students who graduated from qualifying institutions within the past two years; and the Presidential Management Fellows program for students with advanced degrees

Partnership for Public Service’s Federal Hiring Advice
- Resources providing guidance to those seeking positions in the federal government, including an outline of some benefits of working for the federal government and a how-to document for navigating USAJobs.gov

Princeton University’s Federal Government and Job Search Guide
- Tips for searching for and applying to federal jobs and internships
- Advice on formatting and developing resumes when applying for federal positions

USA Jobs
- A wealth of information and application advice in the students and recent graduate section on current federal job opportunities
- Virtual Student Federal Service that enables students to browse a list of government projects they might be interested in; connects those projects to job descriptions and application forms on USAJobs.gov
Workforce Recruitment Program
- A recruitment and referral program that connects students and recent graduates with disabilities to federal and private-sector employers
- Managed by the Department of Labor and the Department of Defense
- Provides a number of resources, including sample “Schedule A Hiring Authority for Persons with Disabilities” letters and an FAQ about the program

Internships

Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies’ Congressional Internships
- Places Asian American and Pacific Islander undergraduate-aged students in congressional offices for paid eight-week internship experiences

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Internships
- Multiple opportunities for students to interact with professional legislators and leaders in all branches of government
- Internships pay stipends and offer housing and office placements

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Internship Program
- Paid summer and semester internships for Latino undergraduates
- Offers an early career webinar training series providing information to make applicants more competitive; includes a webinar highlighting need for more science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors in public policy careers

Internships in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- Internships opportunities and applications generally posted on committee and member websites
- Generally unpaid

Department of Energy Stipend-based Internships
- Participates in the Pathways Program as well as providing a number of stipend-based internship opportunities

Department of Energy Scholars Program
- Exposes students to the operations and science-based mission of the department through paid appointments that typically last for 10 weeks in the summer

Department of Defense STEM Internship Program
- Multiple opportunities for STEM students to work alongside department scientists and engineers on a variety of projects via multiple summer and semester programs across the nation

Department of Transportation Summer Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups
- Paid 10-week, summer internships for juniors and seniors enrolled in accredited institutions of higher education within a department office
• Focus on providing opportunities to women, persons with disabilities, and individuals from demographic groups that are historically underrepresented in transportation work

**Health and Human Services Emerging Leaders Program**
• Competitive, two-year, paid, internships offering experience rotating through work in multiple operational department divisions

**Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program**
• Multiple opportunities for students in all majors for paid summer and semester internships
• Includes funding for round-trip transportation and housing

** Minority Access National Diversity and Inclusion Internship Program**
• Stipends and some assistance with travel for interns selected by federal agencies and other participating programs

**Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Native American Congressional Internship Program**
• Opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native students to intern in federal agencies, congressional offices, and the White House
• Includes stipends, housing, and travel assistance

**National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Summer Internship Program**
• Summer internship opportunities for students enrolled in accredited two-year or four-year colleges to conduct research and policy analysis
• Paid, 10-week summer appointments

**National Institutes of Health Summer Internship Programs in Biomedical Research**
• Summer internship opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students to spend eight to ten weeks working with institute investigators
• Modest stipends

**Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service**
• A Department of Defense program providing scholarship funding to STEM students
• A student receiving more than one year of SMART funding while seeking an undergraduate STEM degree must intern with a department-affiliated institution for at least one summer.

**Fellowships**

**American Association for the Advancement of Science Science & Technology Policy Fellowships**
• Places students with advanced degrees in offices across the executive, legislative, and judicial branches to learn first-hand about policymaking
• Paid; typically one year

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Fellowships**
• Multiple opportunities for recent PhDs in public health and other health-related sciences
The Union of Concerned Scientists puts rigorous, independent science to work to solve our planet’s most pressing problems. Joining with people across the country, we combine technical analysis and effective advocacy to create innovative, practical solutions for a healthy, safe, and sustainable future.

- Paid positions typically lasting one to three years

**Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education STEM Fellowships**
- Paid fellowships for students with advanced degrees seeking opportunities to experience work in science policy at affiliated Department of Energy research facilities and offices
- Usually one year with the possibility of extension

**John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program**
- Administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Sea Grant Program
- Paid one-year fellowships to serve in an executive or legislative office
- Offers experience in national policy decisions affecting ocean, coastal, and/or Great Lakes resources

**Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program**
- Smithsonian-wide opportunities for students with advanced degrees to conduct independent research or studies related to the institution’s collections or facilities
- Appointments vary from ten weeks to one year depending on the study and fellowship awarded
- Includes stipends

**Women’s Congressional Policy Institute Congressional Fellowships on Women and Public Policy Program**
- Open to women pursuing advanced degrees or who have recently completed a Master’s, Doctorate, or professional degree with a proven commitment to equity for women
- Eight months in congressional offices as legislative assistants on policy issues that affect women
- Paid with a stipend for health care

**White House Fellows Program**
- 15 to 20 paid, one-year fellowships for placement in Cabinet-level agencies, the Executive Office of the President, the Vice President’s office, or smaller federal agencies