Why Do You Need an Internship?

The rules for life after college have changed. Your major is no longer a direct path to a career. The options are wider. The competition is tougher.

Now, more than ever, you have the power to take a proactive role in building the career that fits you best. Internships are as essential to this process as your classes and extracurriculars. They provide a gateway to meaningful employment in a fast-paced, career-oriented world.

Only one-third (34%) of students strongly agree that they will graduate with the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in the job market. And just half (53%) believe their major will lead to a good job.

Strada-Gallup 2017 College Student Survey of more than 32,000 college students

I chose to intern in Washington, D.C. because it made sense to begin building my network in the place I saw myself starting a career. Being in Washington, D.C. has helped me get my foot in the door in a way I could not have achieved elsewhere.

Becca Colehower, Furman University
Interned with a U.S. Congressional Office
What’s Unique About a TWC Experience?

The Washington Center (TWC) has been propelling students of all backgrounds into the workforce for over 40 years. Our program is supported by your university and is designed to complement your learning on campus. You’ll be in D.C., but you’ll live and learn with students from all over the country and around the world. We’re here to help you make the transition from college to career by combining your academic skills, professional interests and future goals.

A Full-Time Learning Experience

During your time in D.C., you’ll be immersed in a guided test run of life as a young professional. You’ll intern at one of our partner organizations in the D.C. area, take an evening course of your choosing and learn how to take the next step in your career through our tailored professional development and career exploration programming. We guarantee housing in the heart of D.C., so in your downtime, you’ll have access to rich cultural and professional opportunities in the District (ranked by Forbes as one of the top 10 cities for young professionals).

Relax... We’ll Take Care of It

Your time is important, and we know how hard it can be to secure a quality internship and move to a new city. That’s why we’ve streamlined the entire process—working with you every step of the way to find you the best internship and give you the fullest experience. Once you’ve been accepted, you can rest easy knowing that you’ll get:

- A quality internship.
- Credit at your institution.
- A fully-furnished apartment.
- A supportive student services staff.
- In-depth professional development.

Go Abroad
Stay Local
Go To a Big City
Do It Yourself

How Do You Find the Right Internship?

Interning is a big commitment. Just like when choosing which college to go to, there is a lot more to consider than the name above the front door. Over time, the bullet point on your resume will fade away—but the skills, experiences and connections you gain from your internship will last your entire professional life.

There are so many ways to intern, you owe it to yourself to find the option that’s right for you. Will you go abroad or stay in the U.S.? Will you intern on your own or through a university-endorsed program? Whichever path you take, the most important thing is to make sure the internship itself is worth your while.

While it’s possible to find a quality internship on your own, The Washington Center will not only match you to a quality internship, but will help you optimize the experience.

A quality internship is a learning experience. When searching for an internship, look for some of the same qualities you would look for in a class at your school, such as:

- Projects and assignments that you can own.
- A goal-oriented approach to work that will help you grow and improve.
- Someone who is invested in your personal and professional success.
- Work that aligns with your interests, makes use of the skills you excel in and fosters those you’re hoping to improve.

There are so many ways to intern, you owe it to yourself to find the option that’s right for you.
What Type of Work Could You Do?

Our goal is to match you with an internship that will not only enable you to do meaningful work you’re passionate about, but will also expose you to things you may not have considered.

Finding You the Best Internship

We have a dedicated team of professionals who maintain a network of 600+ internship sites in the Washington, D.C. metro area. We only match you with internships that provide a quality professional experience that aligns with your skills and interests. Our internship advisors are professional, knowledgeable and eager to get to know you and your goals, ensuring that you’ll be immersed in an internship that matches you.

Passionate About Education?

You may find yourself at an education nonprofit planning events and projects for students.

Like To Write?

You may find yourself at a PR firm writing press releases.

Engaged In Politics?

You may find yourself at a think-tank researching public policy.

Interested In Law?

You may find yourself at a law firm conducting legal research.

I’m a political science major and very passionate about education policy, so I was glad to land an internship combining those two interests. Prior to my internship, I had never had an opportunity to work on professional projects and have it be up to me to complete the work independently. I know I’ll benefit from this experience once I enter the job market.

Samuel Santos, Florida International University
Interned with the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

Not finding your interest here? Don’t sweat it. We work with students of many different backgrounds and would love to talk to you about what internship opportunities we have available for you!
Sample Internships

TWC maintains a network of over 600 internship site partners that host hundreds of TWC interns every year. We place interns in all kinds of industries, from nonprofit, to government, to private sector, to the arts, and finance, and everything in-between. Your internship advisor will guide you through the decision process, and will help match you to the organization that’s right for you.

This list is by no means exhaustive, but will give you an idea of the range of organizations you could potentially be matched to.

**Arts, Humanities & Education**
- American Federation of School Administrators
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- Catholic Diocese of Arlington-Migration & Refugee Services
- Congressional Chorus
- International Leadership Association
- Joy of Motion Dance Center
- National Archive
- National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
- Naval History & Heritage Command
- Respectability
- Special Olympics
- Student Veterans of America
- The Urban Institute
- United Way Worldwide
- U.S. Department of Education
- Washington Performing Arts

**Health, Science & Environment**
- Arthritis Foundation
- CitizenScience.gov
- Climate Institute
- EarthShare
- Ecological Society of America
- Grand Oaks at Sibley Memorial Hospital
- Healthsperience
- Medcovergage
- National Association of Health Underwriters
- National Cancer Registrars Association
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- Scenic America
- Securing Water for Food
- Sierra Club

**International Relations & Global Studies**
- Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain
- Amnesty International Association for Diplomatic Studies
- & Training
- Empowered Women International
- Foundation for Defense of Democracies
- InterAction
- Inter-American Defense Board
- International Rescue Committee
- Leadership Global
- Meridian International Center
- National Defense University
- Peace Corps
- Potomac International Center for Terrorism Studies
- Seraphim Global
- Various Embassies
- Wilson International Center for Scholars

**Business, Economics & Trade**
- 1776
- Brazilian Industries Coalition
- Central Union Mission
- Citigroup
- D.C. Department of Small & Local Business Development
- Foundation on Economic Trends
- Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy
- International Executive Service Corps
- IAC Capital Group
- Manchester Trade
- Peru Trade
- Tourism & Investment Office
- Prep Factory
- The Consumer Goods Forum
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Small Business Administration

**Government & Politics**
- American Security Project
- Council of State Governments
- Grant Thornton
- Kieloch Consulting
- Lobbyint.com
- National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
- Running Start
- S&P Global
- The Abraham Group
- The McKeon Group
- The Potomac Advocates
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. House of Representatives
- U.S. Senate
- Whitmer & Worrall

**Journalism, Media & Communications**
- C-SPAN
- Comunicad
- Double R Productions
- Epic PR Group
- IMGE
- National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association
- PBS’ To the Contrary
- RedEye Professional Post
- SRB Communications
- Various Nonprofits & Government Agencies
- Voice of America
- Washington Diplomat

**Law & Criminal Justice**
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms
- Campaign for Youth Justice
- D.C. Corrections Information Council
- D.C. Law Students in Court
- Dentons Federal Practice Group
- Federal Trade Commission
- International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children
- Justice Research & Statistics Association
- Lawyers without Borders
- Metropolitan Police Department
- National Legal Aid & Defender Association
- Offender Aid & Restoration
- Private law offices
- Public Defender Service for D.C.
- Same Day Process
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Marshals Service
The LEAD professional development sessions each Friday gave me the language, strategies and skills to effectively communicate my own strengths. I also benefited from my LEAD group peers and their experiences, what they were learning and who they were meeting at their internship sites. As a result, I’m better positioned to determine what I’m looking for in a career and how to market myself as an asset to prospective employers.

Ryan Wells, Elon University
Interned with Amnesty International

What Does a Semester Look Like?

Learn on the Job
Monday through Thursday, you’ll work full time at an organization that matches your goals and interests. You’ll gain insight into the life of a working professional, learn skills that you could only acquire on the job and find out what you are (or aren’t) looking for in your professional future.

Gain the Tools You’ll Need for the Workplace
Every Friday, our LEAD (Leadership, Engagement, Achievement, Development) Colloquium will help you contextualize everything you learn at your internship and turn it into a plan for life after college. Through small group sessions and one-on-one advising, you’ll learn how to optimize your strengths, make lasting connections and navigate the job market.

Continue Your Academic Development
One night a week, you’ll learn from expert faculty in a classroom of no more than 18 students. You’ll choose your course from a variety of options to suit your academic goals. You could fulfill a requirement for your major, delve deep into something you’ve always been interested in, or get a new experience with a course you could only find in D.C.

Build a Plan for Life after College
Even though your internship will end, the skills you learn last forever. You’ll leave D.C. with a great internship experience on your resume, new professional connections and a portfolio of all the work you accomplished. Your TWC experience culminates with a detailed plan of action for whatever’s next in life.

WHAT DOES A WEEK LOOK LIKE?

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<th>Internship</th>
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Course
One night per week, diverse course offerings, classes capped at 18 students

LEAD
Friday, professional development, career readiness, personalized attention, networking and career exploration opportunities

Take advantage of all that D.C. has to offer:
• World-famous museums
• Outdoor activities, such as kayaking on the Potomac and hiking in Great Falls Park
• The Smithsonian museums, including the new National Museum of African American History and Culture
• The National’s, International Spy Museum and many art galleries
• Nationals baseball, Wizards basketball and other sporting events
• Free concerts on the National Mall

One night per week
Where Will You Live?

You’ll need a place to call home while you’re in the nation’s capital. All TWC students are guaranteed housing in either our Residential and Academic Facility in NoMa or in equivalent apartment-style housing in one of our partner buildings nearby. Our apartments are designed to give you space and independence as a young professional, while also fostering a diverse community of fellow TWC participants.

The Apartment
You’ll likely live in a two-bedroom apartment with three other interns. You’ll share a bedroom and a bathroom with one other student, and your kitchen, living and dining area with your two other roommates. Apartments are fully-furnished and include a washer/dryer and dishwasher in every unit. They also come with WiFi, cable, essential appliances and even pots, pans and cutlery already stocked in the kitchen cabinets. Our housing is managed by a dedicated student services team to ensure you have the tools and accommodations you need to live comfortably.

The Community
You’ll be living in NoMa, a walkable neighborhood with lots of local amenities and easy access to public transportation. Within our housing, you’ll be part of a community of fellow interns from all over the country and around the world. Whether it’s studying together, going out to dinner in your new neighborhood or seeing the sights, there are lots of ways to make lifelong friendships at TWC.

The City
Visitors will tell you they love D.C. for the monuments and museums. Locals will add that it’s so much more. It’s the perfect fit for someone who is looking to advance their career in a diverse city where there’s truly something for everyone. There are opportunities for networking and career development, but there’s also a vibrant arts and music culture, a world-class food scene, every kind of professional sport and plenty of festivals and community events to attend.
Don’t Just Take Our Word For It

In 2017, we partnered with Gallup to conduct a survey of over 1,800 of our alumni to help us quantify the impact that TWC had on their lives. Here are some highlights from that report:

- Recent TWC alumni are more likely to be thriving in all dimensions of well-being — purpose, social, financial, community and physical — than college graduates nationally.
- Over 80% of TWC alumni agree that TWC helped them develop critical skills for workplace success, including adaptability and communication.
- Recent TWC alumni are more likely to be engaged at their work than college graduates nationally.
- Recent TWC alumni who were liberal arts majors are more likely to be employed full time and working in a field directly related to their undergraduate study than liberal arts graduates nationally.
- First-generation college students who participated in TWC’s program are more likely to be thriving in financial and social well-being than their counterparts nationally.

The people I met were definitely the greatest benefit of my time in D.C. I now have friends from all walks of life that I really built connections with. By chatting with fellow Metro commuters, I got to know international students, Capitol Police officers and more. Through my internship, I was fortunate to interact with military commanders, an ambassador and other dignitaries. Making new connections also led me to attend special events at the White House and Pentagon. This internship was the best experience of my life.

Daisy Provost, Thomas College
Interned with Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
Eligibility

To be eligible, you must:

• Be at least 18 years old.
• Be enrolled as an undergraduate student at an accredited college or university.*
• Be a sophomore or above while participating in the program and have completed at least two semesters on campus by the start of our program.
• Maintain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
• Demonstrate English language proficiency.
• Receive academic credit from your college or university for your participation in the program (TWC does not grant credit).
• Receive approval from your campus liaison (or a faculty sponsor if there is no TWC liaison on your campus).
• Your home institution may have additional eligibility requirements. Please contact your campus liaison before starting an application to TWC. If you need help identifying your campus liaison, email us at info@twc.edu.*

* TWC also considers recent college graduates and students in master’s level programs on a case-by-case basis. Please contact us at info@twc.edu to learn more.

Program Cost

TWC charges program and housing fees (see table at right), but your cost of attendance depends on how the program works at your college or university. Follow these steps to see how TWC will work for you:

• Contact your campus liaison and ask about the cost and credit arrangements at your school. If you need help identifying your campus liaison, email us at info@twc.edu.
• Check with the financial aid office on your campus to see if your aid package can be applied toward TWC costs. We also recommend asking about any additional funding opportunities that may be available to students participating in TWC.
• Review the scholarships available through TWC at www.twc.edu/cost.

The fees listed below are frequently offset by various types of financial assistance and scholarships or through arrangements with your school.

Spring 2019

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<th>Application Fee</th>
<th>Program Fee</th>
<th>Housing Fee</th>
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<td>$8,675</td>
<td>$6,170</td>
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Summer 2019

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Fall 2019

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Eligibility Requirements

Application Deadlines

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<th>Regular Deadline</th>
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<td>Nov. 14, 2018</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Feb. 20, 2019</td>
<td>March 13, 2019</td>
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<td>Fall 2019</td>
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Program Dates

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<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Jan. 28-May 2</td>
<td>May 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>June 4-Aug. 8</td>
<td>Aug. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Sep. 2-Dec. 5</td>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
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What’s Next

1. LEARN MORE
   Visit www.twc.edu/explore.
   Ask your liaison how TWC will work for you.

2. GET STARTED
   See if your financial aid package can be applied to TWC costs.
   Work on your application documents (see checklist below).
   Talk to your letter of recommendation writers.

3. APPLY
   Go to www.twc.edu/apply.
   Start an application for the Academic Internship Program.
   Submit your application with code APPLY60 to waive the $60 fee.
   Make sure TWC has received all application documents.

4. YOU’RE ALL SET
   Wait while your application is reviewed by your liaison and TWC.
   Receive an admissions decision two weeks after your application is complete!

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:
- Resume
- Issues Essay
- Transcript
- Statement of Interest
- Letters of Recommendation*

Visit www.twc.edu/app-docs to see how your application documents will be used.

*Will be submitted online directly by the recommendation writers.

PROMO CODE

APPLY60
My experience with The Washington Center was nothing short of amazing, from the moment I met with a representative on campus to the connections and memories I made in D.C. Being here has taught me to go for everything I desire. It has increased my confidence and I am forever grateful.

Melanie Griffin, University of Central Arkansas
Interned with The National Archives and Records Administration