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U.S. Foreign Service Internship Program

A two-summer international affairs experiential-learning program



BACKGROUND

Established in 2014, the U.S. Foreign Service Internship Program (USFSIP) is a merit and need-based opportunity that offers two paid summer internships to expose undergraduate students to U.S. diplomacy and the work of the U.S. Department of State. Learn more at [careers.state.gov](https://doscareers.com/usfsip) and join our talent network at <https://doscareers.com/usfsip>.

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Foreign Service Internship Program (USFSIP) is a **merit and need-based** opportunity that offers paid internships over two consecutive summers to expose undergraduate students to U.S. diplomacy and the work of the Department of State. In the first summer, participants receive three weeks of academic and professional training in Washington, D.C. followed by seven weeks working in a policy office at the U.S. Department of State. In the second summer, participants are given a ten-week assignment to a U.S. Embassy or Consulate overseas. In the intervening year, USFSIP interns take the Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) to gain a better understanding of the Foreign Service assessment process. Learn more at [careers.state.gov](https://doscareers.com/fsot) and join our talent network at <https://doscareers.com/fsot> to be notified when the application period is open.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and currently enrolled as degree-seeking undergraduate students in an accredited academic institution at least half

time with a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or above. Students must be rising juniors or seniors when they start the program (having applied in their sophomore or junior year). Participants must maintain their student status and GPA for the duration of the program and must be able to obtain and maintain a Secret security clearance.

SELECTION

Merit and demonstrated financial need are key factors in the selection process. Applicants are evaluated on their motivation, academic preparedness, writing skills, background and experience. They provide a Statement of Interest that describes their objectives and motivation in seeking this internship and a Statement of Financial Need. They also draft a short essay describing a situation when they demonstrated the skills sought in Foreign Service candidates, such as leadership, interpersonal, communication, management, and intellectual skills.

BENEFITS

Students are paid at a GS-4 equivalent rate. The U.S. Department of State provides travel reimbursement and housing for both summers.

HOW TO APPLY

Students must submit an online application via USAJOBS. The application announcement opens in late August for the following summer. Applicants must provide current academic transcripts and may provide a PDF copy of the FAFSA Student Aid Report to demonstrate financial need.



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