

HOW TO APPLY

Contact your college or university intern coordinator, career counselor, or department dean for an application. All placements are made during the fall semester, and applications should be received by the MGA Intern Office by October 31. If you do not know the contact person for your college/university, please call:

Carol Pelli

Intern Coordinator

Phone: 410-946-5124

Washington, DC Area: 301-970-5124

Toll Free: 800-492-7122 Ext. 5124

Email: studentprograms@mlis.state.md.us

Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services
90 State Circle, Room 311
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991



Legislative Intern Program for College Students



Maryland General Assembly
Annapolis, Maryland

LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIPS

Each year during the session of the Maryland General Assembly, approximately one hundred students are given the opportunity to serve as legislative interns. Upon acceptance into the program, students interview for placement with legislators, committees, or caucuses of the Maryland General Assembly (MGA).

ELIGIBILITY

Students presently enrolled in a public or independent college or university are eligible to apply. Students must be at least 18 years of age, have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade-point average, and show proof of competency in college composition. A student with a lower GPA may participate in the program if recommended by the sponsoring professor and accepted by the MGA Coordinator. Many of the interns are political science majors; however, students working for degrees in other areas, who are interested in learning firsthand about the process of state government, are encouraged to apply.

Academic credits must be granted to the interns by their colleges and universities. Additional academic work may be required by the sponsoring professors.

WORK ASSIGNMENTS

The type of work assigned the interns is mainly legislative, although some duties are clerical in nature. Legislative responsibilities may include:

- Research
- Writing correspondence
- Preparing, recording, and reporting testimony
- Contacting witnesses
- Attending committee hearings

- Tracking bills
- Working on mailings
- Responding to constituents' inquiries and handling problems
- Writing newsletters

STIPENDS

A stipend is awarded each intern to help defray the costs of participating in the program. The total session stipend varies, depending on the number of days per week the intern works in Annapolis. To be eligible for the program, a student must be able to work a minimum of two full days each week of session.

- \$850 per session = 2 days (15-18 hrs) per week
- \$1,250 per session = 3 days (19-26 hrs) per week
- \$1,650 per session = 4 days (27-31 hrs) per week
- \$2,000 per session = 5 days (32-40 hrs) per week

SESSION

The General Assembly meets annually for a period of 90 calendar days, beginning the second Wednesday in January and continuing through early April. During the initial months, the busiest days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, with few or no committee hearings scheduled for Mondays or Fridays. Most legislators would like their interns to work the three days from Tuesday through Thursday or full-time. However, realizing the demands of college scheduling, the General Assembly accepts students who are able to work only two days per week.

Since the legislature does not take any holidays during its 90-day session, interns are required to commit themselves to a weekly work schedule and to take no holidays or spring break.