



Senate Committee Services Summer Intern Program Questions & Answers

What do interns do for Senate Committee Services?

Interns are generally assigned to one of the 14 standing committees of the State Senate. Interns will conduct non-partisan legal, fiscal, and policy research for the committees, and may be asked to draft legislation and give presentations before the committees.

What does "nonpartisan" mean?

Nonpartisanship is an essential distinguishing characteristic of SCS staff. We provide the same high quality service and put forth the same effort for all senators regardless of political belief, affiliation, or rank. To ensure the appearance of nonpartisanship, staff should avoid public conduct that might lead an observer to believe we cannot provide impartial service to each senator.

What training and education opportunities are available for interns?

- An orientation will provide information on legislative organization and process.
- Regular seminars are held with state agency directors, lobbyists, judges, and appointed or elected officials.
- Interns draft, analyze, and present bills at a mock hearing modeled on committee hearings held during the legislative session.

Who is eligible to apply for the summer internship?

Senate Committee Services actively recruits second-year law students and first-year graduate students in public administration and other relevant programs.

How are interns chosen?

Interns are selected based on demonstrated oral and written communication skills, research and analysis skills, interpersonal skills, and interest in public service.

How are interns assigned to committees?

Interns are assigned to committees primarily based on the "needs of the Senate." However, interns' personal interests are considered to some degree if assignments are available with the respective committees. Additionally, interns are typically assigned to one or two committees for the 10-week period. The committees currently include the following:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education & Workforce Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business, Financial Services & Trade | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Local Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Learning & K-12 Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy, Climate & Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Law & Justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Long Term Care | <input type="checkbox"/> State Government & Elections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral Health Subcommittee | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor, Commerce & Tribal Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means |

Who are the interviewers?

Alicia Kinne-Clawson, Coordinator/Analyst for the Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee. She has a B.A. in Government from Eastern Washington University, a Master's in Public Affairs with an Emphasis in Higher Education Policy from the Evans School of Public Policy and a Ph. D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Washington, College of Education.

Greg Vogel, Counsel for the Senate Local Government Committee as well as the Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee. Greg has a B.A. in International Studies: Asian Studies from the University of Washington and earned his J.D. from Seattle University School of Law. Greg started his career at Senate Committee Services in 2015 as a Summer Policy Intern before officially joining the team at SCS shortly thereafter.

What is the recruitment schedule?

August - October	Accepting Applications
September - November	First Interview & Second Interviews
October - November	Positions offered to three to six interns

How long is the internship?

The internship lasts a total of ten weeks, interns may choose a start date in June that works best for their schedule. Remote work options are currently available, interns should expect to attend in person for a 1-2 week long bill drafting workshop.

How much are interns paid?

Interns are paid upwards of \$3,149 per month. Interns do not receive additional employee benefits or paid time off.

Will SCS provide housing?

No. But SCS can provide information for those seeking short-term housing in Olympia.