



# Summer Intern Program

## Essential Information

### Intern activities

Interns are generally assigned to one of the 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.

### Nonpartisanship

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.

### Training and education opportunities

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 after committee hearings held during the legislative session.

### Eligibility

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

### Intern selection

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

### Internship length

The internship lasts a total of 10 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.

### Compensation

Interns are paid up to \$3,637 per month. Interns do not receive additional employee benefits or paid time off.

### Recruitment schedule

August - November	Accepting Applications
November - December	Interview rounds
November - December	Positions offered to 3 to 6 interns



## Committee assignments

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. Interns are typically assigned to 1 or 2 committees for the 10-week period. The committees currently include the following:

- Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks
- Business, Financial Services, Gaming & Trade
- Early Learning & K-12 Education
- Environment, Energy & Technology
- Health & Long Term Care
- Higher Education & Workforce Development
- Housing
- Human Services
- Labor & Commerce
- Law & Justice
- Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs
- State Government & Elections
- Transportation
- Ways & Means

## Interviewers

**William Bridges**, Senior Coordinator for the Senate Law & Justice Committee. William has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Washington and a J.D. from Gonzaga University. He has over 20 years of experience with Senate Committee Services. William also worked for the Pierce County Council, CenturyLink, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the Washington State Court of Appeals, Division II.

**James Kettel**, Operating Budget Coordinator for the Senate Ways & Means Committee. James has a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Michigan and holds M.B.A. and M.S.W. degrees from Washington University in St. Louis. James has worked in a variety of fiscal roles within state government for the past 20 years. He previously worked for Konica-Minolta in the Czech Republic, and a community college in Michigan.

**Greg Vogel**, Coordinator for the Senate State Government & Elections 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.

## Applying

Interested students must submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample, either through their college or university's job portal, or directly to Senate Committee Services by emailing to [christopher.mccallister@leg.wa.gov](mailto:christopher.mccallister@leg.wa.gov).

Applicants may be contacted to participate in at least one interview with SCS staff.

## Housing

SCS cannot provide housing, but can provide information for those seeking short-term housing in Olympia.