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U.S. Foreign Service Internship

A two-summer international affairs experiential learning program.

[Application opens August 23- September 2, 2019](#)

[Apply on USAJOBS.GOV](#)

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 Department of State at large.

Overview: USFSIP consists of participation for two consecutive summers. In the first summer (2020), participants come to Washington, D.C. for three weeks of training including: U.S. diplomatic history, Department writing, and professional development. Following the training, interns work for seven weeks on policy desks in regional and functional bureaus at State. The second summer (2021) is a ten week assignment to a U.S. embassy overseas. In the intervening year, USFSIP interns must maintain at least a 3.2 GPA and take the Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) to gain a better understanding of the Foreign Service assessment process.

Eligibility: Students must be U.S. citizens, currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree program with a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or above. Students must be rising juniors or seniors when they start the program (i.e., in their sophomore or junior year when applying). Students must be able to obtain a Secret security clearance and be available to participate in Summer I program dates of June 1- August 7, 2020.

Benefits: Students are paid for their time at a GS-4 equivalent. The U.S. Department of State provides travel reimbursement and housing assistance for both summers. Students also receive additional training through the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) and further mentoring from experienced State Department personnel.



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Recruiting: We encourage potential applicants to connect with their local Diplomat in Residence (DIR) or Washington Based Recruiter to discuss their interest in this program or others along with Department careers. You can find your local DIR here: <http://careers.state.gov/connect/dir>.

Selection: A multi-level selection process will be conducted to select new interns. Demonstrated financial need/adversity and merit are key factors in the selection process. Other selection criteria are tied to the following dimensions sought in Foreign Service candidates: Cultural Adaptability; Information Integration and Analysis; Initiative and Leadership; Judgment; Oral Communication; Written Communication; Planning and Organizing; Working with Others.

How to apply: Students will submit an online application via USAJOBS that includes a statement of interest, statement of financial need/adversity, three short essays, current academic transcripts, and a PDF copy of their FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR) if applicable.

The U.S. Foreign Service Internship Program is not a job program. It consists of two temporary appointments for experiential learning. USFSIP is NOT a Pathways program for paid students and recent graduate trainees.



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