

UNM Fred Harris Congressional Internship Program— Washington, D. C.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply? An application can be found on our website, www.unm.edu/~polsci. Use the UNM Fred Harris Congressional Internship Program link. The deadline for receipt of Spring or Fall 2018 applications is Wednesday, November 1, 2018. Completed applications should be delivered to Department of Political Science, Social Sciences Bldg., 2nd floor, MSC05 3070, Albuquerque, NM 87131. Tel. 505/277-8930.

Is the Program competitive? Yes, we seek applications from students who have demonstrated academic excellence as well as an interest in studying the legislative process. There are five internships available for each of Spring 2018 and five for Fall 2018 semesters—all to be filled in a competitive application process guided by strict admissions criteria—undergraduate, minimum 60 earned credit hours and 3.0 GPA or better, any major. The program is academically and professionally rigorous.

How much does the semester in Washington, DC Cost? The housing cost, approximately \$4,040 for the semester, is paid directly by UNM from your \$5390 grant under this program. Interns are personally responsible for payment of a refundable \$200 housing security deposit. Tuition fees for the required 15 hours of UNM-credit courses (15 hours of UNM-credit courses to retain a Lottery Scholarship for those who hadn't by the end of Spring, 2014 already received such scholarships for three semesters) are the same as for on-campus courses. Additional costs for food, travel and entertainment will be different for every person, depending on spending habits.

Is Financial Aid available for the Program? Yes - If you currently receive financial aid, your financial aid package will be increased by \$5390 to help defray the higher cost of living in Washington, DC.

Where will I live? Interns are required to live in housing UNM has contracted for with the WISH program. This housing is located near the House and Senate offices and a Metro station.

Who will I be living with? You will live with the other UNM congressional interns, and there will probably also be interns from other schools in the same facility.

Will I need a car in Washington, DC? No. Transportation in Washington, DC is quite convenient. In fact, driving and parking there can be a nightmare! The Metro can take you all around the city and its outlying areas, like Virginia and Maryland, and it runs from early in the morning until late at night. Taxis are in abundance in the city, and are always an option when you do not feel like walking. In addition, the Amtrak is very accessible, as well as different bus companies like Greyhound, for trips to New York and Philadelphia.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

How many days a week will I be interning? You will be working 4 days weekly—Monday-Thursday. Onsite classes will be conducted on Friday, your day off.

How many credits do I get for either the Spring or Fall semester?

Students receive a total of 15 units of credit: six credits for your internship; three credits each for two upper-division political science courses taught online or via web-ct; and another three credits taught by a UNM professor and other guest lecturers onsite in DC on Friday, the day of the week that you aren't working. (Note: To retain a NM Lottery Scholarship, in addition to this program's grant, students who hadn't already received such a Lottery Scholarship for at least three semesters prior to the end of Spring, 2014 semester must enroll in 15 UNM-credit hours.)

How will the internship benefit me in the future?

The networking opportunities that you will have while working in your internship will be invaluable to you. After living in Washington, DC you will feel that you can live in any big city. After successfully completing the study, research and work, you will feel accomplished and confident that you can succeed in both professional and academic settings.

You are invited to

attend an informational meeting in room 2069 of the UNM Social Sciences Bldg. at 12 noon on Monday, October 9, 2017.