

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 2020 applications is **Tuesday October 15, 2019 by 5:00pm**. 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. There are five internships available for Spring 2020 and five for Fall 2020 semesters. Internship positions are filled in a competitive application process guided by strict admissions criteria, including undergraduate UNM status, minimum 60 earned credit hours and 3.0 GPA or higher, 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 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 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 approximately \$5390 to help cover the higher cost of living in Washington, DC.

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

With whom will I be living? 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. Public transportation in Washington, DC is convenient. In fact, driving and parking there can be a nightmare! The Metro can take you all around the city and its surrounding 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, 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 will I be interning? You will be working in your office 4 days weekly—Monday-Thursday. Onsite classes will be conducted on Friday.

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. Note: To retain a NM Lottery Scholarship, in addition to this program's grant, students who had not 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 courses and the work in your office, you will feel accomplished and confident that you can succeed in both professional and academic settings.

Interested students are encouraged to attend an information meeting in Room 2069 of the UNM Social Sciences Bldg. at 12 noon on Wednesday September 25, 2019.