



Blazing Your Trail to the White House

Influencing policies that govern our world, nation, and communities provide the ultimate opportunity to trailblaze. Given the opportunity, landscape architecture students may apply their unique skillsets to develop policies that will address:

- climate change
- biodiversity
- environmental justice
- transportation
- and more!

Securing policy-related internships can be the first step leading to positions in congressional and legislative affairs, serving on appointed boards and commissions, or even running for elected office. Landscape architecture students are encouraged to take this first step and blaze your trail!

State Policy Internships

The 117th Congress passed both the [Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act](#) and the [Inflation Reduction Act](#). With those signed into law, now is the time to build and to focus on implementation. States governments will receive and administer the majority of these funds.

Kansas Legislative Internship Program

- Contact: Lydia Meiss at intern@house.ks.gov or 785-296-4575
- Applications typically open mid-November
- Responsibilities may include:
 - **Legislative Support:** develop policy proposals, attend committee and caucus meetings, track legislation, draft press releases, understand floor debate and voting processes, and research issues
 - **Constituent Services:** constituent casework, negotiating with state agencies, and prepare material for weekly newsletters
 - **Office Support:** file documents, answer phones, prepare mail, welcome district visitors

Kansas Secretary of State Internship

- Applications are still open!
 - Summer 2023 Deadline: April 28, 2023
 - Fall 2023 Deadline: August 18, 2023
- Internship program coordinator
 - Sandy Tompkins, 785-296-4580, KSSOS.internship@ks.gov

Legislative & Executive Branch Internships Available in All 50 States

[Alabama](#) — [Alaska](#) — [Arizona](#) — [Arkansas](#) — [California](#) — [Colorado](#) — [Connecticut](#) —
[Delaware](#) — [Florida](#) — [Georgia](#) — [Hawaii](#) — [Idaho](#) — [Illinois](#) — [Indiana](#) — [Iowa](#) [D & R](#) —
[Kentucky](#) — [Louisiana](#) — [Maine](#) — [Maryland](#) — [Massachusetts](#) — [Michigan](#) — [Minnesota](#) —
[Mississippi](#) — [Missouri](#) — [Montana](#) — [Nebraska](#) — [Nevada](#) — [New Hampshire](#) — [New Jersey](#) —
[New Mexico](#) — [New York](#) — [North Carolina](#) — [North Dakota](#) — [Ohio](#) — [Oklahoma](#) —
[Oregon](#) — [Pennsylvania](#) — [Rhode Island](#) — [South Carolina](#) — [South Dakota](#) — [Tennessee](#) —
[Texas](#) — [Utah](#) — [Vermont](#) — [Virginia](#) — [Washington](#) — [West Virginia](#) — [Wisconsin](#) —
[Wyoming](#)



New York City

New York City Urban Fellows

Urban Fellows are placed at an array of agencies across the City where they learn about public policy and work closely with leaders engaged in policy and operational work. Alumni are consistently found in leadership positions throughout government, as well as the private and non-profit sectors.

- Seminar series on urban policy
- 9 months, \$31,563 stipend + health insurance
- Deadline: Early January, 2024
- Contact: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dcas/employment/email-internship-fellowship-programs.page>

NYC Parks Capital Division

- Design and construction experience
- Contact: Adrian Smith, FASLA at adrian.smith@parks.nyc.gov

NYC DOT Public Space Division

- Complete Streets, reclaiming roads for public use
- Contact: Nicholas Pettinati, ASLA at npettinati@dot.nyc.gov or nicholas.aslany@gmail.com

NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice

Climate policy at the intersection of:

- Low-income housing
- Healthcare access
- Open space access

Contact: Kizzy Charles-Guzman, Executive Director at KGuzman@cityhall.nyc.gov

United Nations Headquarters

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Economic Affairs
- Political Affairs
- Public Communications
- [See all current internship opportunities](#)

Congress

Congressional Black Caucus Internship

- 9-week Summer Program
- Housing + \$3000 stipend (\$4000 for Fall/Spring semesters)
- Rising college sophomores, juniors, and seniors, as well as recent graduates
- Must reside in or attend a university in a CBC member's congressional district
- Contact: internships@cbcfinc.org

House of Representatives

- Subscribe to the [Weekly House Bulletin](#) for new internship opportunities
- Brian Higgins (NY-27)
 - Possible fellowship opportunities to assist the Legislative Assistant on policy issues concerning the energy, environment, or conservation



- To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Colin Maczka at colin.maczka@mail.house.gov
- Rep. Mann (KS-1)
 - Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
 - Summer 2023 Session
 - Fall 2023 Session term is August 14-December 14
 - Application Due: March 31, 2023 by 5PM—shoot quick email if interested!
 - <https://mann.house.gov/services/internships>
 - Contact: Internship Coordinator, Sydney Robinson at Sydney.Robinson@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-2715

Senate

- <https://employment.senate.gov/senate-internships/>

Architect of the Capitol

- Preserve and maintain landmark buildings, monuments, art, and grounds of the Capitol campus
- Office of the Chief of Operations
 - Capitol Grounds and Arboretum
 - Library Buildings and Grounds
 - Supreme Court Buildings and Grounds
 - U.S. Botanic Garden

Executive Branch: Agencies

[Presidential Management Fellowship](#) (all agencies)

US Department of Transportation

- [Pathways Internship](#)
- [Summer Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups \(STIPDG\)](#)
- [Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship](#)

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- [Forest Service](#)
- [Thurgood Marshall College Fund Program](#) (for HBCU students)
- [All internships](#)

Department of Interior (DOI)

- [Bureau of Land Management](#)
- [Bureau of Reclamation](#)
- [National Park Service](#)

Homeland Security

- [FEMA](#)
- [Health & Science Research](#)

State Department

- [USAID](#)
- [Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs](#)

Department of Commerce (DOC)

- [NOAA Community Engaged Internship](#)

[Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)



Executive Branch: White House

- [Council on Environmental Quality \(CEQ\)](#)
 - Climate change, environmental justice, federal sustainability, public lands, oceans, and wildlife conservation, among other areas
 - CEQ interns may:
 - research policy issues
 - draft fact sheets, memos, and blogs
 - attend meetings with external stakeholders
- [Office of Science and Technology Policy \(OSTP\)](#)
 - Climate and Environment Team: advance climate, environmental justice, and nature
 - Energy Team: advances clean energy priorities and provides policy expertise on energy and net-zero emissions technologies
 - Science and Society Team: protect the integrity of science in the federal government, broaden participation in STEM fields, strengthen U.S. research infrastructure and its security, and ensure equitable access to the benefits of new and emerging technologies and scientific innovation
- [Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\)](#)
 - budget development and execution
 - management, including oversight of agency performance, procurement, financial management, and information technology
 - coordination and review of all significant Federal regulations from executive agencies
 - coordination of legislative and other materials
 - Presidential Executive Orders and memoranda to agency heads
- [Office of Administration \(OA\)](#)
 - Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (OCAO) provides human resource services, including:
 - design and communication services
 - learning and development
 - library and research services
 - Office of the Chief Operations Officer (OCOO) provides operational services, including:
 - facility management
 - construction project management
 - interior design and space planning
 - logistics support
 - continuity of operations planning and execution
 - monitoring of internal and external events affecting the White House campus

General Information on White House Internship Program:

- Stipend of \$10,500 (full-time) or \$5,250 (part-time)
- Hosted in person on the White House campus
- Summer Internships
 - Applications open mid-January and close mid-February
 - Term begins early June and ends mid-August
- Fall Internships
 - Applications open mid-March and close mid-April
 - Term begins mid-September and ends mid-December



Building Your Application

- Cover Letter
 - [Personalize this template](#)
 - Connect your experience to office's functions and goals
 - Emphasize relationship between design and policy work
 - Address to Individual (director, hiring manager, etc)
- Use your university alumni network
- LinkedIn
 - Message staffers, managers, recruiters, alumni
 - Informational interviews
 - Check connections—Friends? Friends of friends? Family? Colleagues?

Applied to a public policy internship? [Let ASLA know here.](#)