



POSITION DESCRIPTION: RESOLUTION TO ADVANCE SENSIBLE DRUG POLICY INTERN

Type: Part-time internship, 25 hours / month

Supervisor: Policy and Advocacy Director

Location: remote

Stipend: \$375/month (can be waived if restricted for course credit or academic reasons)

Term: October 15th - May 31st, 2022 (Start and end dates are flexible; internship may be eligible for renewal.)

Students for Sensible Drug Policy

Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) is the largest global youth-led network dedicated to ending the War on Drugs. At its heart, SSDP is a grassroots organization, led by a Board of Directors primarily elected by and from our student and youth members. We bring young people of all political and ideological orientations together to have honest conversations about drugs and drug policy. We create change by providing a platform where members collaborate, communicate, share resources with, and coach each other to generate policy change, deliver honest drug education, and promote harm reduction. Founded in 1998, SSDP is comprised of thousands of members in hundreds of communities around the globe.

Mission statement

Students for Sensible Drug Policy is an international grassroots network of students who are concerned about the impact of drug misuse on our communities, but who also know that the “War on Drugs” is failing our generation and our society.

SSDP mobilizes and empowers young people to participate in the political process, pushing for sensible policies to achieve a safer and more just future. SSDP does this while fighting back against counterproductive policies – in particular, those that directly harm students and youth.

Core cultural values

- Efficiency
- Transparency
- Humility
- Optimism
- Inclusiveness
- Light-heartedness
- Diligence
- Objectivity
- Consistency
- Self-care
- Compassion

The position

The Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy Intern is primarily responsible for assisting in the passage of our model [Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy](#) in several target localities in states across the United States. The Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy is our legislative spearhead in building momentum to end the War on Drugs at a local level, demanding that town and county councils stop funding enforcement of low level drug penalties, including for possession, use, and multiple other penalties directly relating to or surrounding substance use and its externalities. This position is well suited for someone who is absolutely committed to drug decriminalization and a post-War on Drugs United States.

Responsibilities

Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy

- Assisting SSDP’s Policy and Advocacy Director and relevant SSDP outreach members in guiding SSDP chapters to pass our Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy
- Assisting with coalition development, testifying to relevant legislators, staffers, and department officials,
- Recruiting other cities to pass the Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy by convincing chapter leaders and other drug policy allies to develop campaigns around this proposal
- Developing relationships with drug policy reform allies to develop campaigns around the Resolution
- Maintaining consistent notes and feedback as to the status of each locality’s campaign to pass the Resolution
- Receiving feedback from stakeholders regarding the Resolution for future consideration by the Policy Council Tactical Team

Deliverables

- The passage of the Resolution in target cities as determined by the Policy Director and Tactical Team in correspondence with the Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy Intern
- Legislative materials, organizing documents, and other materials as needed for Resolution projects and tasks

Qualifications

Ideal candidates for this position are accountable, creative SSDP members who have engaged in drug policy reform related advocacy at the campus, local, state, or federal level. Candidates must be deeply inspired in developing strategies to pass the Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy in multiple localities, tied to a background of drug policy reform efforts in their community or state, with special consideration for individuals who have worked on reducing drug penalties in their communities.

Preferred skills and experience:

- Excellent written communication skills
- Exceptional attention to detail
- Demonstrated willingness and ability to adhere to strict data and record-keeping practices
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Exceptional critical thinking skills and ability to self-manage
- Demonstrated ability to help guide youth activists through legislative processes
- Demonstrated ability to help develop, maintain, and/or support coalitions working for a common advocacy-related objective

Terms of internship

- Stipend: \$375 USD/month. This can be waived if a student forgoes it in order to earn school credit, or due to other academic restrictions.
- Interns are classified as Contractors and are therefore not eligible for employee benefits, but are encouraged to leverage the internship experience for career advancement. Upon completion of the internship, individuals may request a letter of recommendation from their SSDP supervisor.

Application process

Please submit your application by email to jobs@ssdp.org referencing "Resolution to Advance Sensible Drug Policy Intern" in the subject line. Applications should include your résumé, a cover letter, and digital materials you have designed if applicable. Cover letters should be addressed to Robert Hofmann. Applications will be reviewed immediately and accepted until the position is filled.

Students for Sensible Drug Policy is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women or non-binary people, people of color, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. We are particularly interested in hiring those who have been adversely affected by the War on Drugs.