

LSU Political Science Internship Opportunities

Last updated: March 17, 2025

Note: Make sure to sign up for POLI 3901 (requires permission from the Political Science office) if you want academic credit for these or any internships you find on your own. See the department website ([here](#)) for more information on eligibility and enrollment.

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I. Current opportunities

1. LSU Lagniappe Internship Fund (*updated March 17, 2025*)
 - A. The campus-wide Lagniappe Internship Fund aims to reduce financial barriers LSU students may face when presented with out-of-state, under, or unpaid internships. No student should pass up a career opportunity because of living expenses, travel, lack of resources or unpaid opportunities. We know that experiential education is the key to developing Career Confidence and becoming Ready to Roar!
 - B. **Who is eligible to apply for the fund?** LSU undergraduate students who have secured an internship offer. (Preference to Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors)
 - C. **What are the application requirements?** Applicants must submit the following:
 - a. A copy of the internship offer letter.
 - b. A completed budget worksheet detailing anticipated expenses.
 - c. A description of how the internship will impact their career goals.
 - D. **When is the application deadline?** April 25, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
 - E. **How can I strengthen my application?**
 - a. Attend informational sessions and workshops offered by the LSU Career Center.
 - b. Utilize budgeting tools to create a reasonable budget.
 - c. Provide a detailed personal essay explaining your career goals and the financial challenges associated with the internship.
 - d. Reflect on how the internship will help you develop key career skills, such as the Ready to Roar Career Proficiencies.
 - F. **How can I get help with my application?** Connect with the LSU Career Center for personalized assistance. We offer various appointments, workshops and resources

to help you with the application process. Learn more on the Lagniappe Internship Fund webpage. Most upcoming Wednesday March 19th at 12pm

- G. **Where do I apply?** To apply, visit the Lagniappe Internship Fund webpage and follow the application instructions provided. lsu.edu/career/lagniappe-internship
2. US Speaker Mike Johnson's office (*updated February 26, 2025*)
 - A. **SUMMER INTERNSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHING:**
Apply through the following link:
<https://mikejohnson.house.gov/services/internships.htm> The deadline is **Friday, March 14, 2025.**
 - B. See <https://mikejohnson.house.gov/services/internships.htm> for information on upcoming internship opportunities, application deadlines, and contact information
3. Checkmate Strategies (*updated December 12, 2024*)
 - A. Contact: Cindy Bishop, text to 225-933-5435 or email: cindy.bishop@checkmate-strategies.com
 - B. Checkmate Strategies offers internships to those interested in learning more about the political process in Louisiana. Our Interns play a huge role on the Checkmate team! Although our internships are non-paid, our interns attain valuable experience that translates into the ability to obtain great paying jobs upon graduation. We have a stellar track record of placing our interns in rewarding careers.
 - C. Checkmate Strategies is a lobbying and governmental relations firm headquartered in Baton Rouge. Checkmate Strategies was established in 1995 and we have been at the helm of many high profile political issues. We also do association management for nonprofit organizations.
4. US Senator Bill Cassidy (*updated December 3, 2024*)
 - A. U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana is seeking interns for his Baton Rouge office during the summer of 2025. Interns will assist staff members with administrative tasks and constituent services. Typical intern duties include answering constituent calls, opening and sorting constituent mail, etc.
 - B. Internships are open to undergraduate, graduate, and law students.
 - C. To apply, please email a resume, cover letter, and completed application from the website (<https://www.cassidy.senate.gov/>) to the intern coordinator, Anna Claire. Her email is annaclaire_pousson@cassidy.senate.gov, and include "Summer Internship" in the subject line. **Applications are being accepted until the end of February.**
5. Louisiana Policy Institute for Children (*updated October 1, 2024*)
 - A. The Louisiana Policy Institute for Children (LPIC) is looking to fill two positions of interest to students. LPIC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that is an independent source of data, research, and information for policymakers and stakeholders on issues related to early care and education for young children, birth to

four, in Louisiana and their families. It seeks to advance policies to ensure that Louisiana's young children are ready for success in school and in life.

- a. **Research & Policy Intern:** For current undergraduates and graduate students. Internships can begin at any time in the year, and last for at least 3 months. See full position description [here](#).
 - b. **Research & Policy Fellow:** For recent graduates (undergrad or grad) and part-time graduate students. Potential for a part-time fellow, depending on the individual. See full position description [here](#).
- B. Knowledge of early childhood or education policy is not required for either opportunity.

6. TurnUp (*updated September 17, 2024*)

- A. TurnUp is a 501(c)(3) non-partisan non-profit organization dedicated to increasing youth civic education, empowerment, and activism. They were featured in Forbes as a standout non-profit organization.
- B. The Civic and Activism Remote Internship program's format is tailored to accommodate the ever fluctuating commitments and responsibilities of a student's lifestyle. The program is fully remote, has start dates at the beginning of each month, encourages campus engagement, and has a flexible time frame and schedule. All students have access to grow into more capable and responsible citizens and to develop their professional skills for a successful future.
- C. The application link is here at bit.ly/tuinternship and the deadline for applications is rolling.
- D. Please feel free to sign up to join an information session [here](#).

7. George C. Marshall Center Internships (*updated August 28, 2024*)

- A. **Note: this is a semester-long internship for Spring 2025 that requires residence in Germany**
- B. Interns play an important role at the George C. Marshall Center's College of International and Security Studies. Interns are encouraged to collaborate on papers or projects with other interns and faculty as well as attend and take an active role in George C. Marshall Center courses, seminars and lectures. We hope that interns will further their knowledge in their respective research fields and immerse themselves in the greater college community during their internship. Garmisch-Partenkirchen and the southern German region offer countless places of historical interest, sporting events, outdoor activities, dining options, concerts, museums, and theater.
- C. The GCMC is a highly requested institute, and you will participate in a selection process which might include an interview. Once accepted, you will be rewarded with an interesting, challenging internship in an international environment – sure to broaden your horizon.
- D. More information and application process (**the deadline to apply is October 31, 2024**) details here: <https://www.marshallcenter.org/en/academics/internships>

8. Action for the Climate Emergency (*updated March 22, 2024*)

- A. This campus-based fellowship program provides participants with a comprehensive opportunity to learn and apply the core principles of field organizing. We aim to delve into the integration and practical use of field strategies specifically in the context of climate advocacy. This will include a series of campus organizing trainings, monthly event planning sessions, training on various digital platforms, techniques for effective coalition building, among other practical skills that are directly applicable to their career. The program is especially designed for those who are keenly interested in pursuing a career in field organizing, with the goal of starting their career journey in 2024. We want graduates of our fellowship to have the full skill set needed to be professional field organizers and advocates.
- B. This program is fully funded, and students who are selected to become fellows would receive a \$1,000 each month, as well as learn the essentials of campus organizing, community event planning, various digital platforms, techniques for effective coalition building, among other practical skills that are directly applicable to a career in field organizing.
- C. For students who are interested, they can submit an application through the position listing found [here](#).

9. Top Drawer Strategies

- A. Contact: Mary-Patricia Wray at mpwray@topdrawerstrategies.com **with resume and brief explanation of interest** with subject line, "Fall Internship Application"
- B. Top Drawer Strategies is looking for one or two paid interns beginning in August. We are looking for help on 3-5 campaigns on an ongoing basis, some local and some state; development or pitches and press advisories/releases for promoting Top Drawer focus on AI in politics; help with website rebrand for company; and research and project management assistance for new carbon capture client in regulatory monitoring and community engagement for central Louisiana permitting.
- C. An ideal intern would have an interest in improving copywriting skills, learning communications strategies, and willingness to focus on detail-oriented work for precision. Communications or Political Science background helpful but not necessary.

10. The Republican Party of Louisiana

- A. We have set up an application portal through LSU's Handshake or submitting a resume to justin@lagop.com would work as well.
- B. Working with Republican legislators and elected officials, where you'll develop a deeper understanding of the legislative and political process of State government.
- C. Assisting the re-election efforts of statewide and national Republican candidates.
- D. Aiding grassroots efforts to expand and secure volunteer activation, volunteer mobilization, and statewide voter outreach.

- E. Assisting LAGOP staffers with daily tasks, such as crafting messaging, opposition research, policy research, marketing and branding, graphic and web design, campaign finance, field representation, and data management and distribution.
- F. You will gain firsthand experience.

11. Louisiana Democratic Party

- A. To apply, email your name, contact information, cover letter, and resume to info@lademo.org
 - B. Some of our interns work with our Communications Director doing social media postings, daily political research and creating fundraising content. They work on various projects including building up the College Democrats program (recruitment/activities like phone banking, canvassing) around the state, working with candidates to coordinate volunteer efforts (trainings/enrollment), helping to build stronger Democratic Parish Executive Committees around the state and planning engagement events for Democrats within the local community.
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II. General Guidance on Where to Find an Internship

Contact Career Services at LSU. They keep an updated list of possible internships that may be relevant to government and politics

Local Government

- Contact your local Metro-Council Member to ask about opportunities. A list of members by district can be found at the bottom of [The Advocate](#) website. A list of local agencies at the city and parish level can be found at the [Baton Rouge](#) website.

State Government

- Contact your State Senator or State Representative to ask about opportunities. A search engine to obtain contact information for these members can be found at the bottom of [The Advocate](#) website or by going to the [Project Vote Smart](#) website
- contact [state agencies or executive departments](#) directly to inquire about possibilities

U.S. Congresspersons and U.S. Senators

- Members have district offices in addition to their D.C. offices. Again, [Project Vote Smart](#) provides a search engine to locate contact information.

Other Local Organizations

- Interest groups
- Political parties
- Political campaigns

Opportunities in Washington, D.C.

- Working for a member of Congress or for a political party or interest group at the national level.
 - There are organizations in D.C. that locate internships for you and provide an academic curriculum:
 - The Washington Center (TWC): <https://twc.edu/>
 - The Fund for American Studies (TFAS): <https://tfas.org/programs/us-programs/>
 - LSU alumni contacts on Capitol Hill (*last updated February 2024*):
 - For anyone interested in pursuing a career in government affairs work on or off the hill, there are three LSU alumni offering to give insight and connect students with employment opportunities. See below for more information about them and their emails for contact:
 - Blake Nolan – Legislative Assistant for Congressman Mike Ezell (MS-04). From Monroe, LA and graduated from LSU in 2020: blake.nolan@mail.house.gov
 - James Payne – Legislative Assistant for Energy and Commerce Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05). From Shreveport, LA and graduated from LSU in 2020: james.payne@mail.house.gov
 - Connor Young – Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Debbie Lesko from (AZ-08). From Memphis, TN and graduated from LSU in 2020: connor.young@mail.house.gov
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III. Past Opportunities

1. Internships with the Friends Committee on National Legislation.
 - a. Info session on February 9, 2024 from 12-1 p.m.
 - b. https://lsu.joinhandshake.com/events/1460473/share_preview
2. White House Internship Program (*updated March 25, 2024*)
 - a. The White House Internship Program is a public service leadership and development program that provides emerging leaders with an opportunity to gain valuable skills while supporting the work of the White House and furthering the priorities of the Biden-Harris Administration.
 - b. Each year, leaders from around the country participate in the White House Internship Program to dedicate their time, energy, and experience to serve the country through public service.
 - c. The application period for the Fall 2024 session is now open. The application portal will close Friday, April 5th 2024 at 11:59pm ET.
 - d. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/get-involved/internships/white-house-internship-program/>
3. RNC Committee on Arrangements Summer Internship Program (*updated March 25, 2024*)

- a. The Committee on Arrangements (“COA”) plans for and manages the Republican National Convention.
 - b. To ensure a timely review of your application all materials are due by April 30, 2024. The COA Internship Program is a structured, full-time, unpaid internship, and positions are limited. The COA Internship Program begins Thursday, June 6, 2024 and concludes Sunday, July 21, 2024. Hours of business are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (days and hours subject to change at the discretion of COA or intern supervisors).
 - c. https://workforcenow.adp.com/mascsr/default/mdf/recruitment/recruitment.html?cid=93870759-17b7-4223-844b-2403ba88b53f&cclid=19000101_000001&jobId=510159&lang=en_US
4. Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana (*updated March 7, 2024*)
 - a. The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana (PAR) has positions open for two interns to assist and learn part time in various roles at the independent, non-profit government policy watchdog group based in Baton Rouge. Established in 1950, PAR is an objective voice for responsible government that conducts research on policy issues and provides commentary and information services. PAR has a tradition of mutually beneficial relationships with interns who are given significant responsibilities that contribute to their intellectual and career development.
 - b. Part-time position, 15-20 hours per week for a period up to one academic year (August 2024 – May 2025). Opportunity to start during the summer, if desired.
 - c. \$10 per hour. Some remote work may be allowed. Applications are available on Handshake and due on April 5, 2024.
 - d. CONTACT: Alex Tirado, Communications Manager, alex@parlouisiana.org or (225) 926-8414 Ext. 222
5. US Representative Mike Collins (*updated August 14, 2024*)
 - a. The Washington, D.C. office of Congressman Mike Collins (GA-10) is seeking part-time or full-time interns for Fall 2024. Internships are a great opportunity for students interested in pursuing careers in politics, government, or policy to obtain meaningful work experience in our busy Congressional office. Interns will assist the Congressman’s staff with a variety of duties such as handling mail, answering phones, responding to constituent inquiries, and conducting tours of the U.S. Capitol. Interns will also assist with legislative correspondence, attend committee hearings and policy briefings to support the work of the legislative staff, help with the management of the constituent database, identify relevant news clippings, and fulfill various tasks for the communications staff.
 - b. Qualified candidates should:
 - Be a current undergraduate student, graduate student, or recent graduate.
 - Demonstrate an interest in politics, policy, and/or public service.
 - Have strong communications and writing skills.

- Be hard-working, dependable, detail-oriented, and professional.

Interested applicants should email their resume and a cover letter to John.Eberhart1@mail.house.gov. Include in the subject line "Intern Fall 2024 – Applicant Last Name".

6. US Rep. Clay Higgins's office (*updated July 11, 2024*)

- C. Interested candidates should submit a resume and brief cover letter by email to: jack.griswold@mail.house.gov with the subject line "fall internship application."
- D. The Office of Congressman Clay Higgins is seeking interns for the Fall 2024 semester. The internship period is negotiable, but conventionally runs from August through December, five days a week, and is in-person in Washington, D.C. This is a paid internship. Interns in the Office of Congressman Clay Higgins support office staff and their various functions. Interns will answer phones, give tours, run errands, and perform daily administrative tasks. In addition to these base responsibilities, interns will receive tailored assignments and tasks, according to their inclination for one of the three primary kinds of work in a Congressional office: legislative, communications, and operations. Said assignments and tasks will be further personalized respective of the individual's specific policy interests. Pending the individual's preference, daily work could include conducting research, drafting letters, writing memos, preparing the Congressman's committee materials, supporting policy development, liaising in committee hearings and markups, drafting press releases, creating social media content, and coordinating meetings. Interns will form formative relationships with staff and the Congressman as they perform these tasks. Staff will be proactive in their development of interns' skills and familiarity with governmental processes. In addition to this daily office work, interns will have plenty of opportunities to form and grow their network, interact with other offices and interns, and observe/participate in other facets of government.

12. Senate Campaign of Mike Rogers (Michigan) (*updated August 23, 2024*)

- A. My name is Christian Christoffersen. I am the northern regional field director for Mike Rogers for US senate in Michigan. I am also a 2019 graduate of LSU with a degree in political science. We are looking for interns to conduct remoter voter contact calling voters here in Michigan to help build support for Mr. Rogers.
- B. The role will consist of students using our system to conduct automated phone calls to voters in Michigan. When contact is made with a voter they will engage the voter in a brief survey to see if they are supporting Mike Rogers. There are no required skills as this is entry-level on a campaign: the only requirement is that the intern is a US citizen. The application process will consist of the submission of a resume or letter of interest if the student doesn't have a resume followed by an interview. After the interview, the student will attend a virtual onboarding session to become familiar with how to operate the system.
- C. Contact email: cchristoffersen@rogersforsenate.com

13. Legiscon (*updated October 30, 2024*)

- A. My name is William Fish, and I am the Managing Director at Legiscon here in Baton Rouge. We've been providing bill tracking services to state agencies, lobbyists, associations, non-profits, and many others for over 50 years.
- B. We're at a unique point where we're preparing for a special legislative session and looking to bring on a new team member—someone passionate about the governmental process, hardworking, and potentially interested in a long-term career with us.
- C. We're offering an hourly role, part- or full-time, at \$20 per hour to start for the duration of the special session (November 2024)
- D. Contact: william.fish@legiscon.com