



State Affairs Intern Job Description

State Affairs offers high quality, subscription-based, investigative and enterprise journalism that covers statehouse news. Our mission is to make statehouse politics and politicians accountable by providing weekly commentary and investigative reporting to our subscribers.

At *State Affairs*, we make news, and don't chase headlines. We look at how legislation and policy affect daily life and then tell those stories from the point of view of average citizens.

We seek to work with interns who bring some journalism experience to the table, especially when it comes to covering politics; and who demonstrate an adherence to journalistic standards and ethics and embrace and understand the need for diversity and inclusion in news coverage.

Our interns should excel at reporting and writing, cultivating sources, and finding news stories off the beaten path that impact significant groups of people. We seek self-starters who can work independently as well as in a team environment.

Our interns work in a fast-paced and demanding environment. They are often required to work long hours, including some evenings and weekends. They may have to travel to cover stories, and they must be able to work under pressure and meet deadlines. They must also be able to think on their feet.

The work can be stressful and demanding, but it is also exciting and rewarding.

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, three writing samples and two letters of recommendation to Joy Walstrum, State Affairs' chief-of-staff at joy@stateaffairs.com. Applications without a cover letter will not be considered.

Required Skills & Qualifications:

College student in good standing with a keen interest in politics or social justice. Ability to report and write clear, concise, balanced news articles. Ability to take direction and interview people of all backgrounds. Some journalism experience and a previous journalism internship highly desirable.

- College student in good academic standing studying journalism, political science or related field
- Keen interest in politics and/or social justice issues
- Ability to take direction and interview people of all backgrounds.
- Minimum of 2 semesters writing for school newspaper or 1 year of professional writing experience in an internship, with a solid portfolio of work
- Exceptional research, writing, and editing skills
- Ability to work independently and with a team to meet deadlines
- Excellent organizational skill and multitasking ability
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Google Docs
- Familiarity with Associated Press standard style guide highly desirable

Duties:

- Interviewing politicians, government officials, and other newsworthy individuals to gather information for stories
- Covering breaking news stories such as natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and other emergencies
- Gathering information about candidates and political parties, analyzing the data, and writing articles that provide insights into current events
- Reporting on public policy issues such as economic stimulus packages, healthcare reform, taxation, and education spending
- Interviewing candidates for elected office about their positions on issues affecting their constituents and the country as a whole
- Covering other topics such as campaign fundraising and ethics violations involving public officials
- Reporting on legislative action in the Statehouse, including committee meetings and floor debates
- Conducting research to provide background information for coverage of political topics such as campaign financing or foreign trade agreements
- Assisting senior statehouse reporters in reporting on stories and other tasks as needed