

Guidelines

In 2008, the Foundation expects to award 12 Internships on the basis of merit to Native Americans or Alaska Natives who:

Are junior and senior-level college students, recent graduates from tribal or four-year colleges, or graduate or law students;
Have demonstrated an interest in fields related to tribal public policy, such as tribal governance, tribal law, Native American education, Native American health, Native American justice, natural resource protection, and Native American economic development.

Internship Provisions

Interns are placed in Senate and House offices, committees, Cabinet departments and the White House, where they are able to observe government decision-making processes first-hand, including attending hearings and votes in the House and Senate. The intensive, ten-week internship fosters life-long bonds with fellow interns and connections to an extensive network of alumni.

The Udall Foundation provides interns with:
Placement in a congressional office or federal agency in Washington, D.C.;
Two-day Orientation to introduce interns to Washington, D.C. and the Internship Program;
Meetings with distinguished members of Congress, Supreme Court Justices, and directors and staff of federal agencies;
Specially arranged tours of federal buildings and national museums;
Community-style living convenient to Capitol Hill* with on-site coordinator;
Roundtrip airfare to and from Washington, D.C. and a daily allowance for meals, transportation and incidentals;
A \$1,200 educational stipend upon completion of the internship.

*Please note that lodging can be provided only for interns, not additional family members.

Conditions of Eligibility

Each applicant must:
Fall under the Foundation's definition of Native American or Alaska Native;*
Be a junior or senior level college student, a recent graduate (within the past 12 months) from a tribal or four-year college, or a graduate or law student;
Have a college grade-point average of at least a "B" or the equivalent;
Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident.

- * For the purposes of the Internship Program, a Native American or Alaska Native is any individual who is:
- A member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band, including any tribe or band terminated since 1940 and any tribe recognized by the state in which the tribe or band resides;
 - A descendant in first or second degree of a member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band, who can demonstrate affiliation with the tribal community according to criteria set by the Foundation;
 - Considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose;
 - An Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native;
 - A permanent U.S. resident who is a member of the First Nations of Canada.

Applicants must submit copies of relevant enrollment forms or descent documentation. Applicants who are members of the First Nations of Canada must submit proof of U.S. permanent residency.

Application Procedures

The following items are required for each applicant:
A completed Internship application form with original signature;
800-word essay, signed and dated;
Résumé (two copies);
A current official college transcript and transcripts for other colleges attended;
Three reference and evaluation forms and letters of recommendation from faculty and tribal officials;
Verification of tribal enrollment or proof of tribal affiliation;
Proof of permanent residency (for First Nations of Canada members).

Application Deadline

The complete application package must be received by January 31, 2008, at the Native American Congressional Internship Program, Morris K. Udall Foundation, 130 South Scott Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701.

Important Dates

SEPTEMBER 2007

Internship application materials available for distribution and on Foundation website.

JANUARY 31, 2008

Receipt deadline for applications.

FEBRUARY 2008

Internship Selection Committee meets to review applications and select Interns.

Applicants notified of final status.

MARCH 2008

Intern Acceptance and Travel Reply forms due.

APRIL 2008

Native American Congressional Interns announced on website.

MAY 28–AUGUST 6, 2008

Internship Program.