



Prospective Student Viewbook

Learn more + apply

DCinternships.org



Dear Prospective Student,

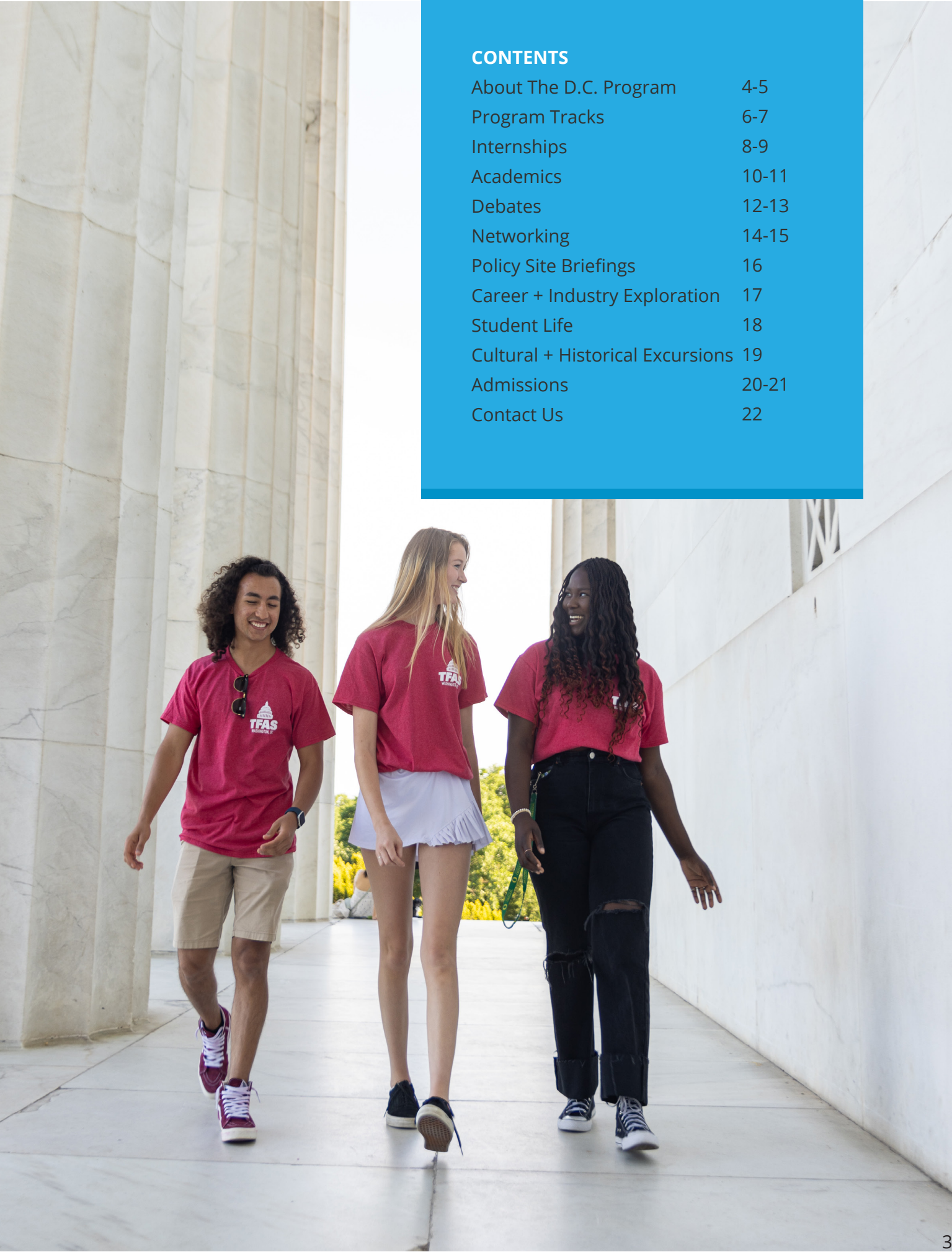
Thank you for your interest in TFAS Academic Internship Programs in Washington, D.C. I hope that you are ready for a monumental summer in the Nation’s Capital. During your time in our program, you will learn skills that you will use throughout your career and make valuable connections as you grow your professional network. In just eight short weeks, you will be exposed to new ideas and add 250+ hours of real-world work experience to your resume.

For more than 50 years, TFAS alumni have gone on to become key figures in business, government relations, public policy and media. Upon completion of our program, you’ll join the TFAS Alumni Network which boasts more than 42,000 members from all over the country and around the world.

I hope you will consider enrolling in our program this summer!

Best regards,

Joseph Starrs
Senior Director
TFAS Academic Internship Programs



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LIVE. LEARN. INTERN. CONNECT.

Spend next summer gaining real-world experience and earning college credit in the nation's capital.

THE FUND FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

(TFAS) hosts Washington, D.C.-based Academic Internship Programs for undergraduate students each summer, fall and spring. TFAS programs include academic credit from George Mason University, an internship placement, and furnished housing in the heart of Washington, D.C. Students participate in

a variety of exclusive guest lectures and site briefings, as well as professional and leadership development seminars. TFAS students leave Washington with 250+ hours of professional experience, an expanded network of contacts and a greater understanding of the variety of career opportunities.

“

TFAS was truly one of the most life-changing experiences. Throughout the summer I was exposed to new ways of thinking, professional opportunities, and friendships. I learned to be more confident in articulating my beliefs and got the opportunity to meet with a range of influential people. TFAS helped me find a direction for my future career and transformed me into a better leader, student, and professional.”

Kenlee Foskey, Mercer University
Intern, National Association of Police Organizations



WHICH PROGRAM TRACK IS RIGHT FOR YOU?



 **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**
Brings together students passionate about global issues and looking to gain experience in the fields of foreign policy, intelligence, international development, diplomacy or national security. Internships are with embassies, international NGOs, policy groups and federal agencies.



 **PUBLIC POLICY + ECONOMICS**
For students who are interested in politics and aspire to work in government, law, economics, public policy or the nonprofit sector. Internships are with federal agencies, policy groups, think tanks, Congressional offices and NGOs.



 **JOURNALISM + COMMUNICATIONS**
Aspiring journalists and communications professionals cover issues of national and international importance while interning with newspapers, magazines, radio, news services, corporate or nonprofit communications offices and PR firms.



 **BUSINESS + GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
Students learn about the legislative process and how it affects industries around the country and world. Ideal for students interested in careers in business, law, government or public policy. Internships with the government relations offices of major corporations, trade associations and private firms.



 **LEADERSHIP + THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY**
Students explore their personal leadership journey through the lens of the American presidency, this program helps participants grow as civic-minded leaders while they intern in the fields of public policy, the nonprofit sector or media.



GUARANTEED INTERNSHIP



An **internship** is one of the most important investments you can make in your future. It can lead to a full-time job, glowing letters of recommendation and important professional contacts in your field. As part of our program, **you are guaranteed an internship** placement in the D.C. area.

TFAS has been creating academic internship experiences for 50+ years and works with more than 300 top organizations in D.C.

INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS INCLUDE:

- Federal agencies
- Congressional offices
- Policy groups and think tanks
- International affairs organizations
- Embassies
- Media outlets and public relations firms
- Government relations offices
- Community-based nonprofit groups

BENEFITS OF OUR INTERNSHIPS

- Approximately 30 hours of work experience per week
- Staff dedicated to finding you the ideal placement for your interests and skills
- Firsthand exposure to the D.C. professional scene
- Work sites easily accessible by public transportation

View past internship sites, sample projects and more at DCinternships.org/internships

PLACEMENT PROCESS

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Once you enroll in our program, you'll complete the Internship Questionnaire. This is the first step in getting to know you, it outlines your skills and experience, the issue areas of interest to you and your preferred organization types.



DEVELOP A GAME PLAN

Next we chat with you over the phone to get a clearer understanding of what you are looking to gain out of your internship experience. During the call we will discuss specific sites and outline a strategy for securing the best options for you.



TAILORED INTERNSHIP RESOURCES

Our team will review your resume and provide personalized feedback to ensure you are a competitive candidate in the Washington market. Additionally, we will make sure you are ready to ace the interview. We will provide you with practice questions, interview tips and resources on researching organizations.

“ My role as a government affairs intern at the National Automatic Merchandising Association allowed me to contribute meaningful work to the trade association and to experience the intersection between government and business. Between researching regulations, attending briefings, providing reports on discussions, and working with the team to support advocacy initiatives, I have gained professional experience working in the Washington D.C. area.”

**Kaylee Jacobson, Truman State University
Intern, National Automatic Merchandising Association**

COURSES FOR CREDIT

Earn course credit while you intern! You will earn between 3-6 credits from George Mason University during the summer. The program's academic goal is to help you explore the free enterprise system and the principles upon which the United States was founded. Our unique curriculum is designed to complement your D.C. experience with upper-level government and economics courses that fit a wide range of interest areas.



TOP RATED FACULTY

Classes are taught by full-time and adjunct professors at George Mason University and other top D.C. schools, including Georgetown University and American University.



View class descriptions, sample syllabi and professor biographies at DCinternships.org/academics



EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKERS

In addition to the academic courses, each program track features a weekly guest lecture that will give you a chance to learn from, question and exchange business cards with well-connected leading Washington professionals. As part of our comprehensive program, these interactive events enhance your academic and professional experience.

SAMPLE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



JOSÉ PIÑERA

Former Chilean Minister of Labor + Social Security



JASON RILEY

Columnist, The Wall Street Journal



AMITY SHLAES

Chair of the Board, Calvin Coolidge Foundation



ALEX JAFFE '09

Reporter, Associated Press



KARITH FOSTER

Comedian + Author



AMBASSADOR KRISTJAN PRIKK

Estonian Ambassador to the U.S.



DOUG BANDOW

Fellow, The Cato Institute



BRIAN DONOHUE

Director of Government Relations, American Cancer Society

“

This program is extremely interesting, and I had some of the best political and economic debates I've ever had in this program.”

Joshua Replogle, University of St. Andrews
Intern, Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training



DEBATES

Hone your critical, analytical and reasoning skills by engaging in student-led debates on current issues like objectivity in journalism, federal minimum wage, border security or universal healthcare. The parliamentary format of the debates allows everyone to have a voice and promotes learning in a civil environment.



MAKE MORE CONNECTIONS

Who you know does matter – especially when it comes to your future job search. Our comprehensive programs are designed so you can make valuable professional connections and practice your networking skills in a real-world setting.

TFAS programs offer a number of networking opportunities to enhance your internship experience and maximize your time in D.C.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS prepare you to stand out in today’s competitive job market. Topics include resume, cover letter and interviewing preparation, as well as skill building in public speaking, networking and graduate school admissions.

“
At the end of the day, the TFAS program will provide you with the tools to succeed anywhere.”
**John David Guerrero, Southwestern University
Intern, National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors**

MENTOR PROGRAM

We match you with a D.C. professional working in your field. Your mentor will provide tips for living in Washington, as well as career advice and networking contacts.

“
My mentor is a senior officer for the European Investment Fund and a TFAS alumnus. He has greatly changed the way I approach networking, LinkedIn, career interests and interviews. He has dedicated a significant portion of his time to helping me grow.”
**Coby Kranz, University of Maryland - College Park
Intern, American Tower Corporation**



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS
Network with program alumni and policy experts who will help you learn how to leverage your D.C. experience into a future internship or full-time job after graduation.

TFAS ALUMNI NETWORK
We have more than 18,000 alumni around the world forging careers in politics, government, public policy, business, philanthropy and media. These leaders are a sampling of the TFAS alumni making an impact in their communities and career field.

Visit DCinternships.org/alumni to learn more.



SITE BRIEFINGS

Experience behind-the-scenes exposure to some of the most influential institutions and organizations in Washington. Only a structured internship program such as ours can open this many doors.

- U.S. Capitol - Floor of the U.S. House of Representatives
- U.S. Court of Appeals
- U.S. Department of State
- Embassies
- Federal Reserve
- Federal Trade Commission
- National Press Club
- The Pentagon
- The White House
- World Bank and International Monetary Fund



Visit DCinternships.org/networking-briefings to learn more about networking.

FIND YOUR PASSION

Designed to help you explore a variety of career paths and to further build your network, TFAS plans a series of career-focused panels and small group discussions led by professionals working in a range of fields and industries. You'll learn about important topics affecting job seekers in your field such as daily responsibilities, pressing policy issues and job seeking resources.



Students will have the opportunity to participate in sessions associated with their program track. Past small-group discussions and career panels have featured:

- Amazon Government Affairs
- Caterpillar, Inc. Government Affairs
- CIA + FBI: Intelligence Careers
- Covington & Burling Law Careers
- C-SPAN
- Defense Consulting Careers
- Deloitte
- Federal Aviation Administration
- National Geographic
- National Public Radio
- NBC News
- POLITICO
- Stateside Government Affairs
- Time Magazine
- Uber Government Affairs Careers
- United Nations
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Careers
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- U.S. Institute of Peace
- U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
- The World Wildlife Fund

“

A comprehensive, eye-opening experience that introduces students to the inner workings of Washington, D.C.!”

Aditya Waddodagi, Washington University in St. Louis Intern, Newlines Institute



DISCOVER YOUR NEW HOME FOR THE SUMMER

By participating in a TFAS program, you will have a built-in social network from the beginning. Student leaders come from all over the country and world to experience all that the Nation's Capital has to offer. TFAS plans activities and events throughout the summer to you help you get to know your program peers. Activities may include:

- Nationals baseball game
- Excursions to the Smithsonian museums, zoo + botanic garden
- Guided Tours of the National Mall, Georgetown + Capitol Hill
- Kayaking on the Potomac River
- Day trips to Mount Vernon, Arlington Cemetery + Monticello
- Service projects impacting the D.C. community
- BBQ with TFAS alumni

HOUSING

You will live just blocks from the national monuments, State Department and White House on the campus of George Washington University. Fully furnished housing and roommate matching is provided as part of our comprehensive package.

- Steps away from Metrorail and bus stops
- Roommate matching with other program participants
- 24/7 campus security and resident advisors on site
- Wi-Fi and cable
- Fully equipped kitchen

Visit DCinternships.org/student-life to learn more about living in Washington, D.C.

SEE ALL THE SIGHTS

You'll also have plenty of time to explore all of the social, cultural and historical aspects of this vibrant capital city on your own. By the end of the summer, you will really feel like a D.C. insider.



Lincoln's Cottage



Smithsonian American Art Museum



U.S. Capitol



Old Town Alexandria History Tour



Kayaking on the Potomac River



George Washington's Mount Vernon

HOW TO APPLY

Admissions decisions are made on a rolling basis with preference given to early applicants. Visit [DCinternships.org](https://dcinternships.org) for additional details on the admissions process. Application requirements include:

- Online application
- Resume
- Official transcript
- Short writing sample
- \$25 application fee
- Letter of Recommendation
(Leadership + the American Presidency track only)

2023 SUMMER PROGRAM June 3 - July 29	
Early Deadline	December 6, 2022
Priority Deadline	February 9, 2023
Final Deadline	March 14, 2023

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be 18 years old, have graduated high school, and have completed at least one semester of undergraduate study at an accredited college or university before applying to attend one of the summer or semester programs.

PROGRAM COST

Credits	Tuition + Housing
3-Credits	\$7,950
6-Credits	\$9,150

AFFORDING THE PROGRAM

Our programs strive to be accessible and affordable to the best and brightest students, regardless of their financial situation. Scholarship awards are granted at the time of acceptance, giving students the best picture of whether the program is financially right for them.

- Scholarships are awarded based on need and merit
 - More than 85% of students receive scholarship assistance
- Existing financial aid packages may be transferred to finance participation
 - Full scholarships available

2022
SUMMER
PROGRAM



STUDENTS FROM
27 COUNTRIES
40 STATES

AVERAGE GPA

3.66



290

STUDENTS
ENROLLED



177

UNIVERSITIES REPRESENTED

\$1 MILLION

SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED



56%
FEMALES



44%
MALES





DCinternships.org



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DCinternships



TFAS Academic Internship Programs

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