

CBO's 2012 Summer Internships...

Neither rain nor snow nor losing power during the “derecho” stayed CBO’s Summer Associates from the swift completion of their appointed projects. Grappling with the federal budget requires diverse talents and a wealth of supporting analysis, and this summer the associates were up to the task. Coming from a variety of backgrounds that included economics, public policy, law, and New Jersey, the associates applied their tremendous analytical might to issues of immigration, oil drilling, Medicaid, and the like. They pored through legal

documents, called the IRS and other agencies, and tangled with computer code. Although budget and economic analysis is their true passion, the associates were also willing to take on other duties at CBO, including playing as ringers for the CBO softball team, making the scene at local venues, and meeting policy and economics luminaries at in-house seminars and on Capitol Hill. Nine out of nine CBO Summer Associates agree: Nobody balances challenging, rewarding work, and fun like an office full of budget analysts!



Columbia University
Ph.D., Economics

Interning in the Macroeconomic Analysis Division has given me a fascinating perspective on the way real-world policy analysts build and use economic models. As a graduate student, you can get into the mindset that there’s only one way to approach a problem, but at CBO, they emphasize that good forecasting models use whichever technique does the job best. I designed several different models to forecast personal consumption expenditures, gaining insights into questions, ideas, and new methods that I can apply in my own research. Everyone I’ve worked with has been helpful, smart, welcoming, and fun. Even as an intern, you are included in every meeting and get plenty of face time with the higher-ups. In addition to the rewarding work I did for my project, I sat in on meetings with CBO’s Panel of Economic Advisors, attended hearings of the House Budget Committee, and met the legendary Bob Hall.

My work examined the regulatory requirements for firms doing oil and gas drilling across federal, state, and private lands. I conducted interviews with professionals working at various levels of federal and state government and in industry. With my supervisor, I synthesized the data I gathered with applicable laws and regulations to devise a conceptual framework to analyze differences in regulatory requirements for firms wanting to drill on federal, state, and private lands. At CBO, I have been able to apply my academic studies in a professional environment to help inform policymakers during the decisionmaking process. The staff at CBO have shown me how to conduct policy research that is independent and transparent, which is invaluable in any environment.



Rutgers University
M.P.P.



University of Chicago
M.P.P.

I analyzed the health status of “newly eligible” Medicaid enrollees under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and developed a health risk adjustment factor based on the difference ... between “newly eligible” and current Medicaid enrollees. I also participated in developing CBO’s formal response to the Supreme Court’s ruling on the ACA. This was an exciting time to be working on Medicaid issues at CBO. Staff were wonderful to work with, very supportive of my project, and helped me expand my knowledge of Medicaid and cost estimating. I really appreciated the friendly and collegial nature of CBO; this internship has been a wonderful experience.



Carnegie Mellon
University
M.P.P.M.



Georgetown University
Law Center
J.D.



Georgetown University
M.P.P.



University of Virginia
M.P.P.



Indiana University
Maurer School of Law
J.D.



London School of
Economics, MSc,
Econometrics and
Mathematical
Economics



For internship and employment information, contact
Congressional Budget Office, Washington, D.C.

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