

CBO's 2013 Summer Internships...

The Summer Associates of 2013 may be one of the Congressional Budget Office's smaller classes in recent years, but what they lacked in numbers, they made up for in skill in conducting well-developed and objective analyses to tackle budgetary and economic issues. Hailing from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences—in public policy, economics, law, public health, and communications—this year's associates modeled bidding practices for Medicare Advantage, improved a model for forecasting consumption expenditures, monitored

enrollment in and spending on Medicaid, fielded inquiries from the press and public, and more. They attended briefings and lectures on Capitol Hill, they learned about every division within CBO, and, to obtain information to improve their analyses, they worked with people from other agencies. The summer experience at CBO furthered their professional development, broadened their understanding of federal budgetary issues, and provided a welcoming workplace to interact with intelligent and distinguished colleagues.



North Carolina State University
M.S., Public Administration

As an intern in the Natural and Physical Resources Cost Estimates Unit, I have gained insight into how CBO scores and prepares cost estimates for major pieces of legislation. I have attended meetings where we discussed everything from the sanctions on Iran to cutting the Internal Revenue Service's appropriations and have been a part of preparing cost estimates for the Senate and House immigration bills. This has truly been an amazing experience and has given me practical experience to supplement my work as a master's in public administration candidate. The skills and knowledge that I have gained here are invaluable to my future, and I look forward to sharing what I have learned.

I had the fortunate experience of being able to directly apply my health policy background toward projects within the Health Systems and Medicare Cost Estimates Unit. Specifically, I worked to develop a model to better understand how the bidding patterns of insurers participating in Medicare Advantage change in response to the changing benchmarks set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Through the support of senior staff, I compiled several data sources to form a data set, which I used to run a variety of analyses using the quantitative techniques learned in my master's program. My experience at CBO has been especially rewarding, as I have both contributed to furthering the goals of the unit and enriched my understanding of the Medicare program, cost estimates for federal legislation, and health policy in general. My colleagues at CBO were welcoming and supportive of my goals, ultimately making the office a wonderful place to work every day.



Harvard School of Public Health
M.S., Health Policy and Management



Johns Hopkins University
Ph.D., Economics

Working in the Macroeconomic Analysis Division, I've gained insight into practical macroeconomic forecasting, a topic which is rarely taught in graduate school but which is frequently important to economists in the real world. From my project, which involved evaluating CBO's consumption forecast model, I've learned the practical details and philosophy of economic forecasting. During meetings with my forecasting team, I've seen the broad process behind a high-quality forecast. The skills and knowledge I've gained here will be invaluable in my future research. Additionally, summer associates get a flavor for everything CBO does and attend seminars by CBO staff and outside experts. It is rewarding to work in a collegial place with many excellent economists. A CBO internship is a great opportunity for anyone interested in economic policy.



Harvard University
M.S. Public Policy, Business, and Government Concentrations



Rice University
Ph.D., Economics



American University
Washington College of Law
LL.M., Law and Government



London School of Economics
M.Sc., Global Media and Communications



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

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