

# CBO's 2015 Summer Internships...

The Congressional Budget Office's 2015 summer associates hailed from every corner of the country and boasted a wide array of skills and interests. What united this diverse group was a shared interest in nonpartisan policy analysis and the intricacies of federal policymaking—and in the occasional weekday Nats game. Dispersed across the various divisions of CBO, the summer associates worked on many issues, from spending on state-of-the-art weapon

systems to the latest Supreme Court decisions. When not working on their projects, the associates could be found attending in-house guest lectures, touring the Capitol, or hobnobbing with the top brass at an after-work gathering. Interesting, educational, and enjoyable are words that don't often apply to the same internship, but the summer associates found that all three applied to their work at CBO.



Univ. of Pennsylvania  
Ph.D., Health Care  
Management and  
Economics

*I had the opportunity to collect, analyze, and present data on the health care exchanges with the help of a brilliant team of health economists. My research was focused on competition among insurers in the exchanges and how their ownership structure (whether they were financially integrated with a hospital, customer-owned, and so on) affected the average health insurance premium—a very timely topic! As a health economics Ph.D. candidate, I often have coursework that refers to “an insurer” in the abstract, but this project expanded my knowledge of the inner workings of particular insurance companies as well as the health exchanges. And even though I worked on a specialized project, I learned about a broad array of issues—such as deficit reduction options, budget forecasting, and even alternative ways to fund highways—through attending seminars across all divisions, meeting with guest lecturers, and interacting with colleagues. Basically, an internship at CBO is a policy nerd's paradise. ◇*

*Working as a summer associate was a summerlong crash course in budgetary analysis. From day one, I was treated not as a mere intern but as a full-fledged member of my unit. I worked on bills related to renewable energy development,*



Univ. of California,  
Berkeley  
M.P.P.

*federal land management, homeland security, and financial regulation. The work was anything but predictable. Whether I was researching royalty data, interviewing forestry experts, or looking over proprietary maps with oil industry geologists, the only constant during my summer was that I was always learning something new. Beyond my day-to-day work, I was actively encouraged to sit in on*

*guest lectures and seminars at the office and to venture up to the Hill for hearings and conferences. Still, what impressed me most were my colleagues—who, despite being whip-smart policy wonks and experts in their fields, always seemed happy to chat, swap ideas, and help me get the most out of my summer experience in Washington. ◇*

*I spent the summer developing a database that organized and presented various outputs required for an annual CBO report. Day-to-day interaction with experts from numerous government agencies increased my knowledge of economics, national defense, politics, and social policy. CBO provided work that was challenging and rewarding and that furthered my development as a professional. In addition to my work at CBO, I attended thought-provoking lectures on the Hill. The internship was a unique opportunity to contribute to CBO's vital role in the legislative process, and my experience left me with greater aptitude for critical thinking and problem-solving. ◇*



Univ. of Maryland  
M.S.W.  
Florida Institute of  
Technology  
M.S., Operations  
Research



San Diego  
State Univ.  
M.P.A.



Georgetown Univ.  
B.S., Computer Science



Clayton State Univ.  
B.S., Computer Science



Univ. of Arizona  
J.D.



Harvard Univ.  
Ph.D., Economics



Univ. of Chicago  
M.P.P.



American Univ.  
M.A., Political  
Communication



St. Edward's Univ.  
M.Acc.  
Texas Tech Univ.  
M.B.A.



Univ. of Chicago  
M.P.P.



For internship and employment information, contact  
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