



Princeton
Internships in
Civic
Service

PICS 2010 Internship Description

Organization Name: Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

Internship Location: Washington, DC

Required Dates: Yes No If yes, internship must start on: _____ and end on _____ or
must include the period:

Housing Will Be Available to Intern: Yes No If yes, housing will be free: or
housing will cost the student:

Expected working schedule for this internship:

Start Time: 9:00 am End Time: 5:00 pm
Lunch break: 1 hour (duration) N/A (specific time, if applicable)

Additional Information, if necessary:

(Please indicate if any of the preparation work will take place outside of the regular work schedule)

Organization Description

Please describe your organization briefly, including mission statement, activities, size etc. Please also explain the benefit that will be derived by your organization by sponsoring a Princeton intern.

The AAMC serves and leads the academic medicine community to improve the health of all.

The AAMC represents all 131 accredited U.S. and 17 accredited Canadian medical schools; approximately 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, including 68 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; and nearly 90 academic and scientific societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC represents 125,000 faculty members, 75,000 medical students, and 106,000 resident physicians. Through its many programs and services, the AAMC strengthens the world's most advanced medical care by supporting the entire spectrum of education, research, and patient care activities conducted by our member institutions. The AAMC and our members are dedicated to the communities we serve and steadfast in our desire to earn and keep the public's trust for the role we play in improving the nation's health.

Each year, more than 16,000 students graduate with an M.D. degree from AAMC-member medical schools. Through residency programs and fellowships, these new physicians continue their education and prepare for diverse careers in patient care, teaching and research. The AAMC works to ensure that the structure, content, and conduct of medical education meet the highest standards and keep pace with the changing needs of patients and the nation's health care system. AAMC resources assist the

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leadership, faculty and administrators of medical schools and teaching hospitals in accomplishing their educational missions. In addition, the AAMC operates a variety of programs and services that assist in the medical school and residency application processes.

America's teaching hospitals are the backbone of the nation's health care system. Millions of Americans turn to teaching hospitals for specialized surgeries, life-saving care, and complex treatments. They are where medical knowledge continuously evolves and new cures and treatments are found. They are where critical community services, such as trauma and burn centers, always stand ready. They are the training ground for more than 100,000 new physicians and other health professionals each year. And they are a vital part of America's safety net, providing care to millions of the nation's uninsured.

The AAMC represents the nation's nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems and their associated clinical physicians. Comprising only six percent of all hospitals, AAMC members operate:

- 47 percent of all organ transplant centers;
- 60 percent of all level-one trauma centers;
- 67 percent of all burn beds, and;
- provide nearly half of all hospital charity care nationwide.

The vision of the AAMC and its members is a healthy nation and world in which:

- America's system of medical education, through continual renewal and innovation, prepares physicians and scientists to meet the nation's evolving health needs.
- The nation's medical students, biomedical graduate students, residents, fellows, faculty, and the health care workforce are diverse and culturally competent.
- Advances in medical knowledge, therapies, and technologies prevent disease, alleviate suffering, and improve quality of life.
- The nation's health system meets the needs of all.
- Concern for compassion, quality, safety, efficacy, accountability, affordability, professionalism, and the public good guide the health care community.
- Medical schools and teaching hospitals continually earn the trust and support of the public for their special missions.
- The AAMC and our members are a dynamic force in realizing this vision.

The Health Care Affairs team at the AAMC would benefit greatly from the enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work of a PICS intern.

Given the expansive health policy debate occurring now in Washington and the possibility of Congress' passing a health care reform bill, the AAMC's employees are working at full capacity. The AAMC's Health Care Affairs team (a team of approximately 20 employees) would benefit greatly from a Princeton intern's ability to research timely health policy issues, attend and report on government hearings, and generally support the mission of the Association. The summer interns the AAMC has hosted in the past have been integral to the work of the Association, and the AAMC knows that the enthusiasm, dedication, and diligence of a Princeton student would help the Association to serve its members during the summer months.

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Describe in detail the work or project will do; please be as specific as possible. Please also explain the benefit that a student will obtain by interning with your organization.

The Princeton intern will be assigned to the AAMC's Health Care Affairs team, a group that works on regulatory health policy issues and serves the Association's teaching hospital and academic clinician constituents. The intern will be asked to complete research and writing projects to assist the Association's full-time staff with their work on timely health policy issues and will be asked to attend and report on various government and association meetings and briefings. This past summer, for example, interns conducted research and wrote memoranda on Medicare demonstration projects, attended and reported on meetings of the national Health Information Technology Policy Committee, helped to coordinate member responses to the annual Medicare inpatient regulation, and helped with shorter-term research requests.

The intern will also be asked to provide general office support as needed, and quantitative projects may be available for students with data expertise. While it is impossible to predict exactly what health policy issues will be most pressing next summer, the passage of any health reform bill will inevitably prompt a heightened need for the Association to advocate for and educate its members during this time of great change and regulatory activity. The AAMC will provide the intern will excellent opportunities to learn about academic medicine, health care delivery and payment systems, and the government agency regulatory process.

Intern Qualifications

Describe any particular skills, background, or qualities you are seeking in an intern.

The AAMC is seeking an intern who has a strong interest in health policy, has excellent research skills (particularly web-based research), and is enthusiastic about the Association's mission. The AAMC expects the intern to be punctual, professional, motivated, and willing to ask for help when needed. Strong writing skills and Microsoft Excel skills are also a plus.

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