



Princeton
Internships in
Civic
Service

PICS 2010 Internship Description

Organization Name: City Academy

Internship Location: 4175 N. Kingshighway St. Louis, Missouri 63115

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: 8:30 am End Time: 5:00pm
Lunch break: 30 - minutes (duration) (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.

City Academy is a private independent elementary school offering grades PK – 6. Our program fosters a culture of academic rigor, integrity, and citizenship. City Academy is special because of our emphasis on serving students least likely to access an exceptional education due to geographic or economic factors.

The school is built on a foundation of scholarship to ensure income is never a determining factor for admission. Donor investment from throughout our community, and investment income from the school's endowment, makes it possible for promising students from committed families to receive a high-quality independent education at an affordable cost. City Academy will award nearly \$1.8 million in financial aid for the 2009-2010 school year.

Princeton Internships in Civic Service is administered by the
Princeton University Class of 1969 Community Service Fund.

12 Stockton Street
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-921-7948, pics@69csf.org, www.69csf.org



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City Academy opened September 1999 inside a local boys and girls club. The school's scholarship program makes it unique locally and nationally. City Academy has maintained an emphasis on scholarship providing financial assistance to 100% of qualified applicants without compromising the quality of the school's educational program. All families pay tuition based on household income, but the school's scholarship program keeps City Academy financially accessible for families with limited resources and few educational alternatives. The per pupil cost is more than \$18,000, but the average family tuition for the 2009-10 school-year is \$3,600.

In St. Louis, City Academy is the *only* independent school with 100% of its students receiving financial aid. Most independent schools in the metropolitan area have fewer than 30% of their students receiving financial assistance. City Academy families represent a diverse demographic varying in economic and social backgrounds. The following figures highlight some of the family demographic information from the 2009-2010 school year:

- 100% of families qualify to receive financial assistance
- 90% of students are African-American
- 90% of students live in underperforming or unaccredited school districts
- 54% of children qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program

Internship Description

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 PICS intern would have three primary projects. They are listed below in order of priority. We realize the intern may not be able to address all three projects simultaneously.

- 1) Create a curriculum and/or resource list to begin an oral history project for upper grades (4, 5, and 6) with an emphasis on area African-American and other minority educators, experts, volunteers, advocates, etc. who have dedicated their lives and/or careers to the promotion of educational equity in our local community. There is a real sense of urgency to document their stories, and to share the insights with the public and our students (many of these people are past their 60's and not in good health). Students would begin working on this project during the 2010-2011 school year. The PICS intern would create the foundation off of which faculty would build in the coming year.
- 2) Create an alumni wall that celebrates the placement of City Academy graduates in area secondary schools. This is a priority because our first graduates are currently juniors in high school. We want to develop this wall now to enable us to track college placement in the very near future. This wall would be located in a prominent location inside our school to reinforce the importance of secondary school placement, and to impress upon prospective families the ultimate value of a City Academy education.
- 3) City Academy is hosting a Math Forum in November 2009. There is preliminary interest in hosting a Science Forum in fall 2010. Were time to permit, we would appreciate help documenting schools, civic leaders, educators, colleges, corporations, foundations, etc. that we would want to include on our mailing list for a future Science Forum. Identification of future partners would be extremely helpful as we plan for 2010.

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Intern Qualifications

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

Ideally, the PICS intern would have previous experience working with children ages 9-16 or a strong desire to do so. The intern should be patient, able to maintain a disciplined schedule, comfortable working with people of diverse backgrounds, and maintain high expectations. We are seeking a self-motivated, inquisitive individual who is passionate about working with underserved populations. This person must be highly organized, have a commitment to follow-through, and be able to work independently. A demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with diverse populations is a must. Good analytical and writing skills are essential.

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