UChicago Institute of Politics Summer Internship Program

Program Overview
The Institute of Politics (IOP) Summer Internship Program offers substantive internships in the political, policy, and public service sectors. The program gives UChicago undergraduate students the opportunity to have meaningful, career-oriented experiences with organizations and agencies doing important political and policy work. Last summer (2014), the IOP offered close to 300 such internships in Chicago, Washington, DC, New York, and Los Angeles, as well as in 20 other domestic locations and 13 different countries. Internships are often full-time, 40 hours per week for 10 weeks, and run from mid-June through mid-September. There is some flexibility with regards to dates and length of internships but those are handled on a case-by-case basis. IOP interns are required to attend pre-internship training prior to their summer opportunities and enjoy access to summer programming in the city where they obtain an internship.

Internship Organizations
From legislative offices to policy think tanks to newsrooms, students have the chance to intern at a wide variety of organizations each summer. Please see our website for a list of internships offered during summer 2014: http://politics.uchicago.edu/pages/summer-internships

Internship Deadlines & Key Dates
The application deadlines for summer internships are rolling, beginning in late December and ending in late April. Deadlines are based on employer preferences, and internship postings are often available for a minimum of two weeks. The entire application process from the internship posting date to the employer’s selection of their summer intern usually takes an average of 6-8 weeks.

Application Process
To further streamline the internship process, the IOP partners with Career Advancement’s Jeff Metcalf Internship program, which includes branding, listing, and managing these opportunities together. For this reason, students must visit Career Advancement to have their resume reviewed and to sign the On-Campus Recruiting (OCR) agreement before they are able to apply to these opportunities on Chicago Career Connection (CCC).

To locate internship postings on CCC, please search for “2015 Jeff Metcalf - Institute of Politics --” in the job title field. All application materials must be submitted online via CCC, and applications close at 6:00 p.m. on the deadline. Internship postings will be advertised on the IOP listhost every Thursday. Students can sign-up for the listhost here: http://signup.politics.uchicago.edu/page/s/signup

Once submitted, application materials are sent to employers for review. If employers are interested in interviewing an applicant, they will contact the student directly. When a student has been selected for the position, we will notify all applicants by e-mail to let them know that the position has been filled.

Contact Information
For specific questions about IOP internships, please contact Karnika Iyengar, Assistant Director, Internship Programs at karnika@uchicago.edu.

For advice on internship applications, including resumes and cover letters, please reach out to UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service (UCIPSS) by calling Career Advancement at 773-702-7040 to schedule an appointment.