



Bob Graham Center For Public Service Tallahassee Internship Program Spring 2022

**Experience Politics
and Policy
in Florida's Capital
While Earning
Academic Credit**

**Key Dates
2021-22**

Sept 16

In-person info session,
Pugh Hall, 2nd floor

Sept 27

Applications close

Oct 4

Applicant interviews

Oct 11

Interns announced

November

Prep and orientation

January 2022

FL Legislature convenes

Each spring semester the Bob Graham Center offers University of Florida students interested in politics and public policy the opportunity to participate in the Tallahassee Internship Program, a premier internship placement that coincides with Florida's legislative session.

Directly working within offices of elected officials, executive branch agencies or prominent lobbying firms, students learn invaluable skills and develop meaningful networks in professions relevant to their career goals. Up to 15 internships are awarded each year.

Interns are required to live and work in Tallahassee during the full duration of the legislative session. The program provides interns with housing, utilities and a small stipend to offset the cost of living.

In addition to their workplace duties, interns take a course on Florida politics, attend seminars featuring well-known political personalities and enjoy exclusive social gatherings. Students can earn additional academic credit through virtual courses or an independent study with UF faculty.

Since its beginning in 2009, more than 160 UF students have served as interns in Tallahassee. They have gone on to earn public policy fellowships, attend graduate school, campaign for local and national elections, serve in progressively senior roles as legislative staff, work for corporations and NGOs, and more.

Why Apply For the Internship

- Gain first-hand experience in a legislator's or lobbyist's office, or state agency office
- Advocate for issues that you care about and apply classroom knowledge in the "real world"
- Build a resume for employment/graduate or professional school after college
- Create a network of contacts
- Examine career choices and develop additional skills in a professional setting



UF Liberal Arts
and Sciences
BOB GRAHAM CENTER
FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Eligibility

Successful candidates are detail-oriented, self-starters with a passion for public service and the intersection of policy and politics. All academic majors are encouraged to apply. Past participants have come from a wide range of disciplines, including international studies, animal science, anthropology, business administration, criminology, economics, English, environmental science, finance, foreign language studies, food and resource economics, public health, history, journalism, management, marketing, philosophy, political science, and public relations.

A minimum 3.0 GPA is needed to apply. Preference is given to students who have junior or senior standing.

Application Period

Applications open at the beginning of the fall semester. Participants are selected by approximately mid-October.

New in 2021-22

Special Tallahassee Internship placements for students interested in Florida's environment or healthcare are now available. Students selected for these internships will develop industry knowledge and professional networks that better position them for future fellowships and career opportunities in these fields.

Florida Blue Tallahassee Internship

In partnership with Florida Blue, the Bob Graham Center has created the Paul Sanford Florida Blue Tallahassee Intern whose placement will focus on pressing health care issues taken up in the 2022 legislative session.

Paul Sanford was a long-time, well-respected lobbyist for Florida Blue. His



"I chose to apply to the Tallahassee Internship Program to gain clarity on my career choices. I'm now motivated to pursue a law degree because the law has the ability to act as a force of change, is constantly evolving, and can positively affect lives."



Sofia Mingote, '22

professional service is recognized and memorialized through this internship. The intern will be expected to exemplify dedication to the public good. They will be placed in an office with a healthcare policy focus to be determined before the beginning of the session. At the end of the term, the student will provide a written report to the Bob Graham Center summarizing the internship, their responsibilities and the value they took from the experience.

Students with an academic major in the public health field or demonstrated interest and experience in healthcare policy are encouraged to apply.

Florida Sea Grant Tallahassee Internship

In partnership with the Florida Sea Grant College Program at the University of Florida, the Bob Graham Center has created two positions for the Florida Sea Grant Internship. The placement focuses on issues that promote the sustainability and resilience of Florida's coastal communities and ocean resources.

The Florida Sea Grant internship is oriented to students with an academic major or demonstrated interest and

experience in relevant coastal topics, such as water quality and quantity protection, climate change impacts, seafood quality and safety, hazard resiliency, fisheries conservation or access to Florida's coast.

Florida Sea Grant is a university-based program that supports research, education and extension to enhance the sustainability and resilience of coastal communities and to promote the health of ocean and coastal environments that underpin Florida's economic prosperity.

Florida Sea Grant interns will be placed in a legislative or executive branch office with an ocean or coastal focus. Working closely with Florida Sea Grant staff at UF, the interns will design an outreach project that amplifies the visibility and value of Florida Sea Grant's mission through their efforts in Tallahassee, applying the knowledge and networking gained during their term.

Contact

Visit the Bob Graham Center website for FAQs and more detailed information about the internship. Questions may be directed to the Center's experiential learning coordinator, Hakeem Hasan at hhasan@ufl.edu, (352) 273-1077.