# How to Get and Use Policy Fellowships to Launch Your Public Policy Career



Washington Internships: How to Get Them and Use Them to Launch Your Public Policy Career

by Diana L. Stephens

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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#### What are Policy Fellowships?

Policy fellowships are temporary positions that provide recent graduates and early career professionals with the opportunity to work on public policy issues at government agencies, nonprofits, and think tanks. Fellows typically work on a variety of projects, including research, writing, and policy analysis. Fellowships can be a great way to gain experience in the field of public policy, build your network, and develop your skills.

#### How to Get a Policy Fellowship

There are a number of different ways to get a policy fellowship. One common way is to apply directly to fellowship programs. Many government agencies, nonprofits, and think tanks offer their own fellowship programs.

You can find these programs by searching online or by contacting the organizations directly.

Another way to get a policy fellowship is to apply through a fellowship clearinghouse. Fellowship clearinghouses are organizations that match applicants with fellowship programs. Some of the most popular fellowship clearinghouses include the American Political Science Association's Congressional Fellowship Program, the Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship Program, and the Truman Scholarship Foundation.

#### How to Use a Policy Fellowship to Launch Your Public Policy Career

Policy fellowships can be a great way to launch your public policy career. Here are a few tips on how to make the most of your fellowship:

- Take advantage of the opportunities to learn and grow.
  Fellowships are a great opportunity to learn about public policy from experts in the field. Take advantage of the opportunities to ask questions, attend briefings, and shadow policymakers.
- Build your network. Fellowships are a great way to meet people in the field of public policy. Attend events, meet with policymakers, and connect with other fellows. These connections can be valuable resources throughout your career.
- Develop your skills. Fellowships can be a great way to develop your skills in research, writing, and policy analysis. Take on challenging projects and seek out opportunities to develop new skills.
- Explore your career options. Fellowships can be a great way to explore different career options in public policy. Talk to policymakers,

attend career fairs, and learn about the different types of jobs available in the field.

Policy fellowships can be a great way to launch your public policy career. By following these tips, you can make the most of your fellowship and set yourself up for success in the field.



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