

Maine Government Summer Internship Program

The Maine Government Summer Internship Program places talented college students in internships in which they contribute to state and local government. The students gain meaningful work experience, make professional connections, and gain insight into career goals. The supervisors benefit from eager workers with fresh perspectives and a variety of skills who care deeply about contributing to Maine government.

The 2016 program ran from May 31 to August 19. Most interns were placed in the Augusta area, and five interns were placed in municipal or regional government positions. Some positions required statewide or regional travel.

The Maine Government Summer Internship Program is a full-time, paid work experience. To be eligible a student must either be enrolled in a Maine college or be a Maine resident enrolled elsewhere and have successfully completed a minimum of two years of college. Students are placed in internships based on their skills and interests, and all majors are eligible.

Supervisors typically choose a project for the intern to accomplish and identify the skills required for the job. A selection committee reviews all applications and makes the final selections.

Consideration is given to education and skills in relation to the internship positions available. In 2016, 121 students applied; 39 were selected. The program was established in 1967 by the 103rd Legislature and has placed more than 1700 students in Maine government internships.



Administered by the

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MAJOR PROJECTS OF THE 2016 MAINE GOVERNMENT INTERNS

The 2016 Maine government interns were placed in 11 different state departments, three municipal governments, and one economic development district. Interns were assigned to specific projects while also assisting in general workflow. This list shows a sampling of interns' activities.

- *Performed stream surveying, stream profile development, hydrology report writing.*
- *Conducted research on land use and transportation planning and cooperative services in the Midcoast region.*
- *Developed and managed Department's social media accounts, Newsroom blog and e-newsletter.*
- *Assisted attorney with file/case preparation, drafted legal documents such as appellee/appellant briefs and petitions.*
- *Updated and redesigned Geographic Response Plans (250) for marine oil spills for the state.*
- *Produced informational videos for prospective Maine College Transitions students.*
- *Completed product testing for data base modification and customization to streamline the transfer of information between databases.*
- *Created and managed two new consumer booklets: "Downeaster Common Sense Guide to High Interest/High Cost Loans," and "Downeaster Common Sense Guide: On the Money, a Young Person's Guide to Financial Success."*
- *Created county maps for emergency management agencies across the state to show locations of dams, identify their hazard, and highlight local public services.*
- *Led attorney-client meetings and mediations and made winning arguments against experienced adjusters and attorneys.*
- *Worked with health and safety officials to improve personnel and safety manuals for the town office, fire and EMS, and public works departments.*
- *Compiled data and created 30 "Five Facts in Forty Seconds" flyers to be distributed to state legislators.*
- *Reviewed lifecycle analysis on solid waste management hierarchy and resources to integrate systems thinking to reduce greenhouse gases through materials management choices.*
- *Performed research on Rural Tourism Development and created an information booklet for tourism consultants and tour bus operators.*
- *Researched the blueberry, potato, and tipping industries in Maine where migratory families might work.*
- *Created Preliminary Design Reports (PDRs) including cost estimates for multiple bridges around the state.*
- *Developed a business inventory map of the City of Saco.*
- *Created maps for the State Dam Inspector to illustrate various watersheds and areas of downstream inundation.*
- *Conducted research and wrote papers on topics such as Girls issues in Corrections, Restorative Justice, and youth with severe mental health issues in corrections.*
- *Pursued opportunities to better utilize town owned space such as turning empty tree lots into hiking trails or partnering with a Land Trust to discuss an environmental easement on a property.*
- *Reviewed exported data on costs associated with oil spill cleanup and summarized findings.*
- *Used excel to evaluate large data sets and worked on a large interactive mapping project.*
- *Reviewed Affordable Care Act filings for compliance with attestations and quality implementation plan.*
- *Updated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System storm water maps using ArcGIS and field observations.*
- *Staffed consumer hotlines and investigated/closed consumer complaints.*
- *Helped develop informational materials for Maine legislators showing how much was invested in their districts for affordable housing.*
- *Worked with all department heads learning the dynamics of local government.*
- *Researched opportunities for reuse of solid waste.*
- *Managed the department's 13 social media pages.*

2016 MAINE GOVERNMENT SUMMER INTERNS AND AGENCY SUPERVISORS

Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services

<i>Supervisor name, title and division</i>	<i>Intern name, hometown</i>	<i>Intern college, major</i>	<i>Intern title</i>
Jan Patterson Property Management Division Bureau of General Services	Olivia Overlock Washington, ME	<i>Thomas College</i> Management	Equipment inventory/ data entry intern
John Blais Space Management Specialist Bureau of General Services	Lindsey Allen Jay, ME	<i>Thomas College</i> Management/MBA	Facility Planning Assistant
Jill Instasi Director of Special Projects Bureau of General Services	Robert Pietraszewski Sidney, ME	<i>The University of Maine</i> Finance/Business Management	Special Projects Assistant

Maine Department of Corrections

Jay Pennell Juvenile Justice Specialist Juvenile Justice Advisory Group	Susan Leonard Colorado Springs, CO	<i>Bates College</i> Politics	JJAG Assistant
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Maine Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management

Tony Fletcher State Dam Inspector Maine Emergency Management Agency	David Vitali Freeport, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering Intern
John Cronin Base Civil Engineer	Dianna Rockhill Glenburn, ME	<i>Husson University</i> Business Administration, Management	Engineering Intern
Barry Turcotte GIS Coordinator Camp Keyes	Carlene Shaw Yarmouth, ME	<i>State University of New York at New Paltz</i> Geography	GIS Assistant
Alan Ballard Energy Manager Maine Army National Guard	Christopher Williams Shrewsbury, MA	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil and Environmental Engineering	Energy Manager Assistant

Maine Department of Economic and Community Development

Donna Moreland Office of Tourism	Shelby Neuschwanger Bath, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Business Management	Tourism Destination Assistant
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Maine Department of Education

David Fisk State Director Migrant Education	Matt Flaherty Portland, ME	<i>Norwich University</i> Spanish	Migrant Education Field and Office Assistant
	Paola Maymi San Juan, Puerto Rico	<i>Bowdoin College</i> Government & Legal Studies and Spanish	Migrant Education Field and Office Assistant
	Camden Cone Gardiner, ME	<i>Connecticut College</i> Sociology	Migrant Education Field and Office Assistant
	Leah Turlo Benton, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Political Science	Migrant Education Field and Office Assistant

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Maine Department of Education

<i>Supervisor name, title and division</i>	<i>Intern name, hometown</i>	<i>Intern college, major</i>	<i>Intern title</i>
Anne Gabbianelli Director of Communications	Alexis Dostie Vassalboro, ME	<i>Boston College</i> Psychology	Communication Assistant
Abby Manahan Professional Development Coordinator Adult Education & Family Literacy	Carter Williams Portland, ME	<i>Concordia University</i> English	eLearning Development Assistant
Sherry Wyman Coordinator of Education Technology Maine Learning Technology Initiative	Rebecca Pelletier Bangor, ME	<i>Saint Anselm College</i> English/ Secondary Education	Maine Learning Technology Initiative Assistant
	Alexandria Woodard Green, ME	<i>Elmira College</i> Political Science	Maine Learning Technology Initiative Assistant

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Mary James Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management	Jessica Allen Cape Elizabeth, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Management	Special Projects Assistant
Ginger McMullin Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management / Division of Response Services / Portland Regional Office	Adam Haversat Cape Elizabeth, ME	<i>Plymouth State University</i> Environmental Planning	GIS Assistant

MaineHousing

Richard Taylor Research and Communication Manager MaineHousing	Erik Rost Cumberland, ME	<i>Connecticut College</i> Economics	Research and Planning Intern
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Maine Department of Labor

Julie Rabinowitz Director of Communication Office of the Commissioner	Lydia Zepeda Dover-Foxcroft, ME	<i>Emmanuel College</i> English Communications and Media Studies	Communications Assistant
Mark Dawson Supervisor of Research and Statistics Bureau of Labor Standards	Emily Rice Farmington, ME	<i>Saint Anselm College</i> Politics/History	Disability Employment Assistant

Maine Department of Professional and Financial Regulation

David Leach Principal Consumer Credit Examiner Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection	Kyrie Johnson Farmingdale, ME	<i>Wheaton College</i> Economics	Assistant to the Principal Examiner
Marti Hooper Life & Health Actuary Bureau of Insurance	Meagan Ring Sabattus, ME	<i>University of Maine at Farmington</i> Actuarial Science	Actuarial Assistant

Maine Department of Transportation

Richard Bostwick Lead Biologist- Highway Environmental Office	Stephen Arsenault Monmouth, ME	<i>Unity College</i> Wildlife Biology	Environment -Highway Unit Biological Assistant
Amelia DeGrace Assistant Engineer Maintenance and Operations	Erica Bertolaccini Winslow, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil Engineering	Traffic Engineering Intern

2016 MAINE GOVERNMENT SUMMER INTERNS AND AGENCY SUPERVISORS

Maine Department of Transportation

<i>Supervisor name, title and division</i>	<i>Intern name, hometown</i>	<i>Intern college, major</i>	<i>Intern title</i>
Jeffrey Folsom Assistant Bridge Program Manager Project Development/Bridge Program	Tyler Turcotte Wales, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil Engineering	Bridge Engineering Intern
Ben Foster Assistant Bridge Maintenance Engineer Maintenance and Operations	Todd Serbent Waterville, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil Engineering	Bridge Maintenance Assistant
Eric Ham Lead Biologist Environmental Office	Eloise Melcher Bowdoin, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Political Science	Environment - Biological Assistant
Dana Hanks Work Zone Traffic Control Engineer Maintenance and Operations	Kelsey Schott Bowdoinham, ME	<i>Simpson College</i> Religion and Political Science	Work Zone Assistant
Charles Hebson Manager, Surface Water Resources Division Environmental Office	Luke Olehowski Lewiston, ME	<i>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</i> Environmental Engineering	Hydrology-Water Resources Intern
Nate Howard Transportation Planner Office of Planning	Thomas Antz Portland, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Civil Engineering	Transportation Planning Intern

Maine Workers' Compensation Board

Daniel Lawson Worker Advocate Advocate Division, Caribou	Theodore Gilliam Presque Isle, ME	<i>University of Maine at Presque Isle</i> Criminal Justice	Workers' Compensation Board Intern
Beatrice Turner Worker Advocate Advocate Division, Portland	Marisa O'Toole Scarborough, ME	<i>Bowdoin College</i> Government and Legal Studies	Workers' Compensation Board Intern

Mid-Coast Economic Development District

Jeffrey Kobrock Executive Director	Maxwell Johnstone Harpwell, ME	<i>Carleton University</i> Public Affairs and Policy Management	Planning and Development Assistant
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Town of South Berwick

Jon St. Pierre Public Works Director	Lauren Clum-Russell Saco, ME	<i>University of Maine</i> Ecology and Environmental Science	Public Works Intern - Environmental
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Town of Union

Jay Feyler Town Manager	Eleanor Snyder Northport, ME	<i>Endicott College</i> Political Science	Research/Manager Assistant Intern
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City of Saco

Kevin Sutherland City Administrator	Margaret Boothby Portland, ME	<i>University of Southern Maine</i> Masters of Business Administration	City Administration Intern
	Kristen Braley Portland, ME	<i>Roger Williams University</i> Finance, Economics	City Administration Intern



Adrienne Bennett and Aaron Chadbourne of the Governor's Office address summer interns and supervisors at the Blaine House awards reception in August.



Adrienne Bennett, Press Secretary to Gov. LePage, awarded certificates to interns.

Summer Seminar

The 2016 mid-summer educational component included a presentation from Ruth Pease in the Department of Labor on current and projected labor force conditions in Maine. Interns spent the afternoon in the State House and participated in discussions on how a bill becomes law, the committee process, and the role of partisan and non-partisan legislative offices.



Interns in the Senate chamber

Comments From Interns

- *"I made a lot of connections with potential future employers."*
- *"I feel I've learned more about actual engineering this summer than I have in my entire college career."*
- *"This job helped me with communication skills in every way imaginable."*
- *"My team was great. They kept me busy, but tried to assign me interesting projects. I was lucky to have smart, thoughtful bosses."*
- *"I was their first intern and it was a great experience. They welcomed me and made me part of the team."*
- *"I learned so much in such a short period of time and was able to get some valuable experience in the field I want to go into."*
- *"This job has played an integral role in the development of my written and critical thinking skills which will be invaluable in my future endeavors as an aspiring communications director."*
- *"My supervisors were absolutely amazing. They taught me very well, and included me in everything they did. I truly could not have asked for better supervisors."*
- *"I learned that Maine Government can be exciting, and is run by people who are truly worthy of their positions."*

Comments From Supervisors

- *"We feel the program brings value to the intern and to the State of Maine. It's an excellent program."*
- *"I cannot say enough great things about our intern. She has been a strong addition to our office. We really hate to see her leave!"*
- *"Kudos to the Policy Center for running a great program that works effectively for both the employer and intern. I am very impressed."*
- *"This is a great way to give a student a chance to find out how state government works."*
- *"If I got an intern only half as good, it would be a good deal for our Town. She has done thousands of dollars of work for the Town that may have taken years to accomplish as time permitted."*
- *"This year's internship was an amazing experience! We would love to do this again."*
- *"I really like the way the Policy Center and the school have kept in touch both with us and with our intern. It's obvious that there is real effort behind this program to succeed."*

2016 AWARDS CEREMONY: INTERNS AND SUPERVISORS



INTERNSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

Meredith Cherry, Policy Assistant, Senate President's Office

J. Thaddeus Cotnoir, Public Service Manager, Bureau of Human Resources

Jay Feyler, Town Manager and Public Information Officer, Town of Union

David Leach, Principal Consumer Credit Examiner, Department of Professional & Financial Regulation

James Westoff, Director of Career Services, Husson University

Charles Morris and Peggy McKee, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, University of Maine



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