



THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
**PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

# PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Ready to Impact Policy?





# PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES



## THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARS PROGRAM





# PARTNERS

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Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
The Bush School  
*of Government & Public Service*



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Policy Internship Programs



# A SCHOLAR'S WEEK

## 2 DAYS IN CLASS



- 6 hours of in-person political science coursework
- Focuses on current issues, relevant special topics, and the American political system

## 3 DAYS IN OFFICE



- 0-6 hours of internship credit
- Focuses on professional development and personal reflection

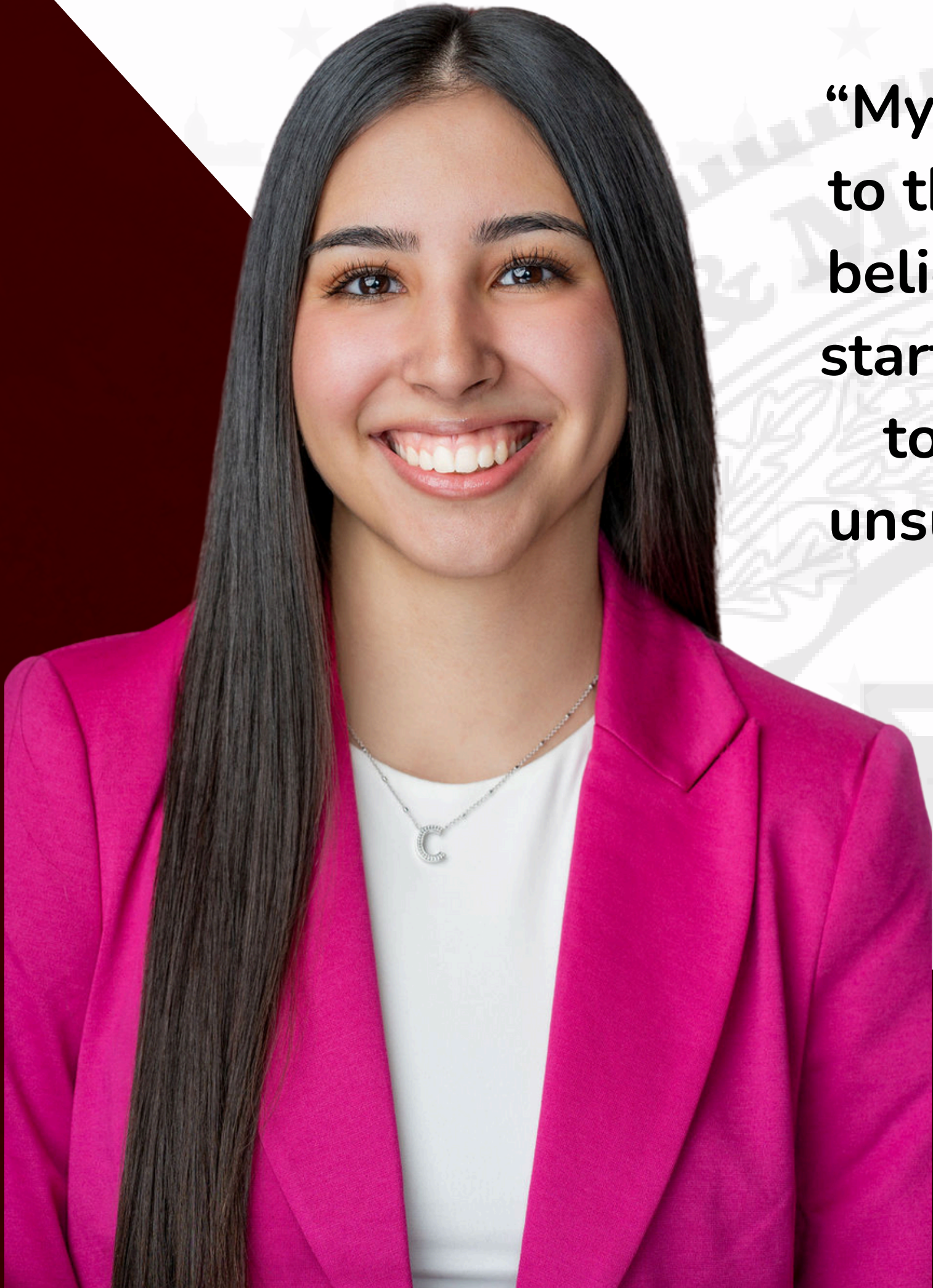




# PROGRAM BENEFITS

	Housing Provided	Academic Credit	Networking	Resume Building	Training & Support	Knowledge of the Policy Process
WASHINGTON, DC						



A portrait of Carolina Pena, a young woman with long dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a bright pink blazer over a white top and a necklace with a 'C' pendant. The background is a light gray with a faint, large watermark of the Texas A&M International University seal. Dark red diagonal shapes are in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

**“My advice for students nervous about applying to the Scholars program or interning in DC is to believe in yourself and your potential. Everyone starts somewhere, and this program is designed to help you learn and grow. Even if you feel unsure, take the chance because the experience will be worth it.”**

**CAROLINA PENA**



TEXAS A&M **INTERNATIONAL** UNIVERSITY



# PROGRAM HOUSING

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## + Scholar Housing Components

- Fully Furnished 3-Bedroom Apartments
- Kitchen Utensils plus Pots and Pans
- Laundry Facilities (in-unit)
- 24-Hour Fitness Center
- Accessible Walking/Running Trails
- Walkable to Grocery Stores/Metro



# INTERNSHIP OFFICES

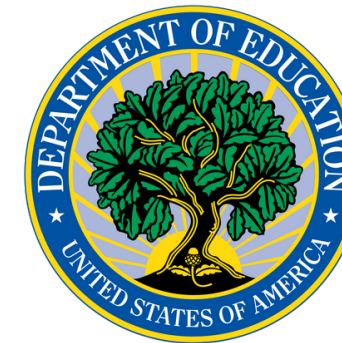
- + Congressional Offices
- + Federal Agencies
- + Advocacy Groups
- + Think Tanks
- + Non-Government Organizations





# POTENTIAL D.C. INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS


- Congressional Offices
  - Senators John Cornyn & Ted Cruz
  - Representatives from TX Delegation
- House Committees
- Senate Committees
- TAMUS, Office of Federal Relations
- Heritage Foundation
- Brookings Institute
- American Enterprise Institute
- Democratic National Committee
- House Republican Conference
- Embassy of Mexico
- Global Cold Chain Alliance
- International Justice Mission
- American Public Human Services Assoc.
- Assoc. for Diplomatic Studies & Training
- Bose Public Affairs Group
- Todd Strategy Group
- National Farmers Union
- Dept of Defense - Air Force Public Affairs
- Dept of Commerce – Southeast Asia Office
- Dept of Transportation – Inspector General
- Dept of Justice – Office of Legislative Affairs
- Peace Corps – Gifts & Grants Management



THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
**PUBLIC POLICY  
SCHOLARS PROGRAM**





A portrait of Miranda Martinez, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing glasses, a maroon turtleneck, and a grey blazer. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a light grey with a faint, large watermark of the Texas A&M University seal. A dark red diagonal shape is visible in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

“Professionally, I think this experience has given me more confidence to go into positions that don't necessarily fit the mold of my degree. For example, I am a history student working in the political realm. While that is not a huge jump, I previously would have doubted myself and never applied to anything related to public policy.”

**MIRANDA MARTINEZ**



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
CORPUS CHRISTI



# STUDENT ELIGIBILITY


- U.S. citizen and at least 18-years-old. Permanent residents are not eligible for this program.
- Classified as a degree-seeking undergraduate student at a university within the Texas A&M University System. Students cannot participate in the program post-graduation.
- Cumulative college GPA of at least 3.0. First-semester freshmen are not eligible to apply.
- Be in good standing with home institution, pursuant to the home institution's academic & student conduct rules.
- Obtain and carry valid health insurance for the duration of the internship semester.
- Attend all program trainings and pre-departure events, which will be administered virtually.







Application Instructions for  
Austin, Texas Internship

  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Public Policy Internship  
Program

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Public Policy Internship Program (PPIP) at Texas A&M University. If you have any questions while completing the application, please contact a program staff member at [ppip@tamu.edu](mailto:ppip@tamu.edu) or 979-845-3712.

Program Eligibility

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible for an Austin, Texas internship through PPIP:

- Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 18 years old.
- Must be classified as a degree-seeking undergraduate student at a school within the Texas A&M University System.
- Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.
- Must be in good standing with their home institution.
- Must obtain valid health insurance for the duration of the internship semester.
- Must be able to attend all training and pre-departure events, which will be administered virtually.
- Must be able to serve the entire spring semester.

Application Guidelines

- Items 1-5 of the Austin application must be submitted by the application deadline. Submit all items in one email.
- Remember, this application is for the Austin, Texas internship only.
- Please complete the Austin application and submit it with the following items:
- Items 2-4 and 6 of the application.
- Docs and links will not be accepted.
- You are **highly encouraged** to submit your application before submitting your application.
- **Note:** Program staff reserves the right to accept or reject any application at any time.

Application Checklist

- ☐ 1. Application
- ☐ 2. Cover letter
- ☐ 3. Professional resumé
- ☐ 4. Policy essay
- ☐ 5. Screen shot of current semester class schedule
- ☐ 6. One letter of recommendation
- ☐ 7. Official college transcript (and unofficial copy)

Application materials should be submitted in one (1) email. See the following for more information on the official transcript.

You will be contacted for an interview if selected.

**Completed application**

Public Policy Scholars Program  
Washington, D.C. | Overview & Eligibility

THE TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
PUBLIC POLICY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Public Policy Scholars Program (PPSP) in Washington, D.C. This is a new System-wide program offered through Texas A&M University's Public Policy Internship Program, in partnership with the Bush School of Government & Public Service and the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) Office of Academic Affairs.

Should you be accepted into the Scholars Program, you will have the unique experience of combining academics with policy knowledge and professional work experience, all while representing the Texas A&M University System and your home institution in our nation's capital. For the purpose of your application and your potential acceptance into the Public Policy Scholars Program, your home institution is the TAMUS school in which you are currently enrolled as a degree-seeking undergraduate student.

Program Eligibility

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible for this program. All criteria will be verified with the applicant's home institution.

- Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 18-years-old. Permanent residents are not eligible for this program.
- Must be classified as a degree-seeking undergraduate student at a school within the Texas A&M University System. Students cannot participate in the program post-graduation.
- Must have a cumulative college GPA of at least 3.0. First-semester freshmen are not eligible to apply.
- Must be in good standing with their home institution, pursuant to the home institution's academic & student conduct rules.
- Must obtain and carry valid health insurance for the duration of the internship semester.
- Must be able to attend all program trainings and pre-departure events, which will be administered virtually.

Program Logistics for the Public Policy Scholars Program

The following logistics should be taken into consideration when applying to the Scholars Program. Students must be aware of and agree to the following guidelines:

- This is an academic program consisting of part-time in-person coursework, as well as a part-time internship in Washington, D.C. Students will enroll in 6-12 hours of credit through their home institution, which will be taught in-person at Texas A&M University's D.C. teaching site. Students will also intern part-time (15-20 hours per week) with a hosting office.
- Before submitting your application, you are highly encouraged to meet with your academic advisor at your home institution to discuss how PPSP could impact your degree plan and graduation.
- If you are selected into the Public Policy Scholars Program, your financial aid will be administered by your home institution. You are highly encouraged to discuss your eligibility for financial aid and scholarships with your home institution prior to applying to PPSP.
- All application information will be verified with your home institution prior to you being offered a PPSP interview.

Program Contact

Should you have any questions while completing the application, you may direct questions to:

Erin Fisk - Program Manager  
Policy Internship Programs  
Texas A&M University  
[erin5fisk@tamu.edu](mailto:erin5fisk@tamu.edu) | 979-845-3712

Application instructions begin on the next page.

**Completed application packets are due by 5pm on Thursday, September 12.**

# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- + PPSP Application
- + Cover Letter
- + Resume
- + Policy Issue Essay
- + Official college transcript
- + Copy of current semester class schedule
- + One (1) letter of recommendation

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
**PUBLIC POLICY  
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## APPLICATION DEADLINES

SPRING '26 - SEPT. 9

FALL '26 - NOV. 3



**“It allows you to experience a different environment and learn how to live in a place that isn’t Texas. Just do it. Who knows what will happen. You can only regret it if you never even try to apply.”**

**LEEYA FLORES**



**TEXAS A&M**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
**KINGSVILLE**



# SELECTION PROCESS



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graph TD; A[SUBMIT A COMPLETED APPLICATION] --> B[15-MINUTE VIRTUAL INTERVIEW]; B --> C[APPLICANT NOTIFICATION]; C --> D[PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE!]
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The flowchart illustrates the selection process for the Public Policy Scholars Program. It begins with a dark red box containing the text 'SUBMIT A COMPLETED APPLICATION'. A blue arrow points down to a second dark red box labeled '15-MINUTE VIRTUAL INTERVIEW'. Another blue arrow points down to a third dark red box labeled 'APPLICANT NOTIFICATION'. A final blue arrow points down to a fourth dark red box labeled 'PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE!'. The background features a repeating pattern of light gray icons, including stars, the Texas state flag, and various university buildings.

**SUBMIT A COMPLETED APPLICATION**

**15-MINUTE VIRTUAL INTERVIEW**

**APPLICANT NOTIFICATION**

**PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE!**



# CONNECT WITH US!

**Web:** [tx.ag/PPSP](https://tx.ag/PPSP)

**Email:** [polycyscholars@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:polycyscholars@ag.tamu.edu)

**Phone:** 979-845-3712

 @tamupolicyinterns

 @tamuPPIP



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