



Are you on a F1/J1 student visa?

- Yes
 No

Do you currently receive financial aid from GW?

- Yes
 No

This information will be used to determine tax implications only and will not affect the selection process.

School or College

- Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (includes Corcoran, SMPA, TSPPPA)
 School of Medicine and Health Sciences
 GW Law
 School of Engineering and Applied Science
 Graduate School of Education and Human Development
 School of Business
 Elliott School of International Affairs
 Milken Institute School of Public Health
 College of Professional Studies
 School of Nursing

Major/Field of Study

Political Science and History

Expected Graduation Time
(Year & Semester)

Spring 2017

Class Level

- Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
 Graduate Dual Degree

What degree will you obtain? (i.e. BA, BS, JD, MA, MS, MPH, etc.)

BA

Official Organization Name for Your Internship:

US Department of Justice Criminal Division, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section

Organization's Mailing Address:

1301 New York Avenue NW #200
Washington, DC 20530

Time Period for Internship (dates):

Monday, June 13th through Friday, August 5th (8 weeks total)

Organization's Website:

<https://www.justice.gov/criminal-hrsp>

Supervisor's Name:

Mr. Jeffrey S. Richter

Supervisor's Phone Number:

202-305-8731

Supervisor's E-mail Address:

jeffrey.richter@usdoj.com

Internship Job Responsibilities & Duties:

The U.S. Department of Justice Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) develops and coordinates human rights enforcement strategy focused on preventing the U.S. from becoming a safe haven for human rights violators and holding human rights violators accountable for their crimes. It also targets human rights violators who reside in the United States for criminal prosecution, enforces the federal criminal laws relating to alien smuggling and other immigration related offenses, and prosecutes extraterritorial violent crimes for which jurisdiction lies under the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act (MEJA) or pursuant to the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States. HRSP interns conduct research and analyze materials generated by research for the benefit of potential future prosecutions. This analysis work consists of reviewing, summarizing, and synthesizing documents and open-source information, including materials written in variety of foreign languages, and producing concise reports and memoranda on questions related to serious mass atrocity situations in recent decades.

Why is the internship unpaid?

The internship is necessarily unpaid because the HRSP under the Department of Justice receives no funding of any kind. Being a government organization, the DOJ has limited funds and must rely on volunteer interns to help get the job done. As an undergraduate student with a special interest in International Law and Human Rights, I voluntarily gave up my right to be paid by choosing to work for the HRSP because I believe in the organization's cause and I hope it will help steer me in a positive path towards future career prospects. However, in order to be able to have this internship and still live in DC and take care of my basic needs, it is imperative that I receive outside funding through the KACIF grant in order to pursue my goals. Without this grant, I will not be able to do this internship.

Essay Questions

Describe your internship responsibilities and how your experience will support your career and academic goals. 500 words maximum. Note: All applications are reviewed anonymously. Please refrain from using your name in the essay.

As an intern in the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section of the US Department of Justice, I will be doing research and analyzing different cases of human rights abuses around the world and helping to prosecute these crimes under the jurisdiction of the United States Courts. I have always had a special interest in human rights and international law, and I hope this story will help bring my interest to light.

I was born to a twenty-year-old mother and nineteen-year-old father in a suburb of Minneapolis, Minnesota. These two young people, who were college students at the time, knew they could not take care of me, so they made the incredibly difficult decision to place me up for adoption. I was officially adopted at nine months by a loving, caring man and woman who raised me as their own child, and who are my family today. My parents have given me opportunities I never could have dreamed of - they encouraged me to pursue everything I desired, from academics to sports to the arts. They helped foster my love of learning and helped me to reach my full potential, which I never would have been able to do without them. Because of their support, their love, and their belief in me, I am an Honors student at the George Washington University today, and I never would have made it here had they not adopted me as an infant. I am eternally grateful to them, but also to the institution of adoption in the United States that helped me, a baby without a home, reach my full potential.

Many years later, as I have come to understand just exactly how adoption has impacted my life, I have realized that I want to pursue a career in helping children around the world achieve opportunities they might not have been able to otherwise, just like me. I have a deep passion for international adoption, which currently crosses over with international human rights issues. Many children today are victims of abuse and neglect in conflict-ridden countries. They do not have access to a good education, opportunities for growth and advancement, or any kind of stability whatsoever. Most of all, many children who have been victims of crimes against humanity have lost their parents, have been abandoned, or lack loving homes. These are the children I feel for, and though I don't understand their exact situation, I know that adoption has made me the successful person I am today. I want every child all over the world to have the opportunities that I have been blessed with, and my goal is to help get as many children adopted as I possibly can.

Sadly, children are used as political pawns every day. In 2012, President Putin blocked all U.S.-Russian adoptions as a political move to pressure the United States to give in to his various demands. As a result, thousands of children who were set to be adopted by American families (who may of them had actually met in person), were now once again stuck in orphanages, with little hope of leaving. This is not only cruel, but it is inhumane and a violation of the rights of those children. I hope that through my work at the HRSP section of the Department of Justice, I will be able to make some kind of a difference in pursuing my goals of being an international human rights lawyer and fight against cases such as the atrocity in Russia. This internship is invaluable to me in that sense, and I hope to receive the funding to be able to do it.

Please describe your involvement and contributions to GW and/or the greater community. 500 words maximum. Note: All applications are reviewed anonymously. Please refrain from using your name in the essay.

At George Washington University, where I am currently a Junior majoring in Political Science and History and minoring in Spanish, I have contributed to the community in a number of ways through my work and extracurriculars. I currently do research for Professor John Forrer in the GW School of Business's Institute for Corporate Responsibility, in which we are working on publishing a paper outlining what businesses can do in order to promote peace and human rights in conflict areas around the world. This academic piece, which we expect to have done by the end of this semester, will be an important contribution to the GW academic community, and hopefully shed some light on the importance of corporate social responsibility.

I am also the Editor-in-Chief of the George Washington University Undergraduate Law Review, which is one of only about ten undergraduate law reviews currently in the entire country. I have written lengthy legal articles for the law review the last two years, as well as helped to edit certain pieces of the publication. This year, I was honored with being elected Editor-in-Chief, a job which I take very seriously as a leader of a publication that makes GW stand out academically in the pre-law field. My job is to select writers, edit their pieces throughout the year, and put together the 2016 edition of the GW Undergraduate Law Review, which is scheduled for publication this April. My contributions for the last three years to this publication has helped to give GW great prestige as a college that takes its pre-law students very seriously and helps propel them to great internships, law schools, and eventually jobs.

Another contribution I make to the GW community is my membership and active role in my sorority on campus, Pi Beta Phi. My sorority has always had a great reputation with the GW administration, especially through our professional conduct on campus, our high academic achievements and standards, and our commitment to philanthropy around the DC community. I have participated in many philanthropy efforts through Pi Beta Phi in my three years at GW, from fundraising to book drives to face-to-face events with the community. I served as the organization's Communications Chair my sophomore year, in which I helped to connect the sorority with the rest of the GW and greater DC community. The efforts I have put into making my sorority the respected organization that it is on campus have proven to be an effective and worthy contribution to GW as a whole.

Why are you an ideal candidate for a grant from the Knowledge in Action Career Internship Fund? 500 words maximum. Note: All applications are reviewed anonymously. Please refrain from using your name in the essay.

I am an ideal candidate for the Knowledge in Action Career Internship Fund because I truly believe in the cause that I will be working for this summer. As can be seen from my statement about how my internship duties will help support my career and academics, international human rights law is fundamental to my belief system and my life goals. I would not be where I am today without the existence of human rights law for children in the United States regarding adoption, and my sincere hope is to give back to the institutions that allowed this to happen in my life. The HRSP Section at the Department of Justice will give me an unbelievable window into the workings of international human rights law, which I have no doubt will better my understanding of where I want to go next.

The problem with this goal is that although I have the passion, drive, and academic success to obtain such an internship, I do not have the means to support myself while living in DC for a summer without the help of outside funding. If I am not granted this money, I will not be able to do this internship, and will therefore be forced to give up an amazing opportunity and, by default, some possible future career options.

I am an ideal candidate for the KACIF grant because I am a hard-working, dedicated student that has enjoyed many successes at GW, but I would not have been able to go to GW in the first place had it not been for the generous aid that the university has given me. I currently receive over \$45,000 in need-based aid per year from GW through scholarships, grants, and loans, and without this aid, I would not be able to attend this university. My contributions to the GW community as described above can attest to the fact that GW feels I am an important component of the university's success as a whole. I will represent GW well at my prestigious internship this summer at the Department of Justice, if I am able to receive the funding to do so.

I want to thank the KACIF committee for reviewing my application, and I hope that I have given you a good sense of who I am, what I would do with this grant, and why it is so important to me. Thank you again for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.



PROPOSED BUDGET FOR INTERNSHIPS WITHIN DC METRO AREA

Please complete the template below to outline your proposed budget. Explain in specific detail your estimated expenses and the existing or anticipated sources of funding and how the funds will be used.

SECTION ONE: Estimated Expenses Related to the Internship:

Local transportation from housing to internship site (i.e. bus, subway, etc.)	\$5 per day = \$300 for 8 weeks
Housing* (if different due to internship)	\$3,350
Estimated Utilities*	\$0
Meal (if your internship requires you to alter your meal plan)	About \$100 per week (\$800 total)
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	About \$420/week without paid job (\$3,360 total)

Please specify miscellaneous expenses (i.e., business apparel, required uniform, equipment or supplies necessary for the internship, estimated forgone wages from inability to get a paid job due to internship, etc.

I already have business apparel and equipment/supplies necessary for the internship, but because my internship will be full time (40 hrs/week), I will be forgoing these 40 hours in place of a paid job (which I typically get during the summers I am not in school). Estimating at \$10.50 an hour, which is DC minimum wage, I would be missing out on about \$420 net per week. For the duration of my internship, which is 8 weeks, I am forgoing about \$3,360 this summer.

* Summer applicants only

SECTION TWO: Other Sources of Aid:

Additional sources of aid towards this internship (i.e. stipend for transportation or food)

\$0

Total estimated expenses (Section One Total)

\$7,810

Total sources of aid (Section Two Total)

\$0

Net estimated expenses
(Section One Total minus Section Two Total)

\$7,810

Total Grant Amount Requested
(Grants for internships in the District of Columbia and other U.S. domestic locations typically range from \$750 to \$1,500, while international internships typically receive grants ranging from \$2000 to \$3000; amount may not exceed net estimated expenses)

\$3,000

Education

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History, Minor in Spanish Language and Literature, The George Washington University, Washington, DC, August 2013-May 2017
Member of the University Honors Program, GPA 3.91

Study Abroad, Spanish Language and Literature, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain, August-December 2015
GW Madrid Study Center, GPA 4.0

Experience

Editor-in-Chief, The George Washington University Undergraduate Law Review, Washington, DC, August 2015-Present

- Review and select candidates for writers and editors
- Edit and assist writers and editors throughout each step of the draft process
- Help writers and editors with the Legal Bluebook citation process
- Create a publishable law review with its own ISBN that is put in the Library of Congress

Research Assistant, Institute for Corporate Responsibility, Washington DC, September 2013-Present

- Writing and editing a working paper on engaging businesses in peacebuilding efforts, publication pending
- Collaborating with Professor John Forrer
- Conduct research on the CSR habits of corporations, NGOs, and government organizations
- Write summaries and write-ups for business proposals

Corporate Research Intern, The US Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC, January-May 2015

- Intern for Fundraising and Development Branch
- Research current and prospective member companies and prepare briefings for senior management
- Write daily corporate news updates
- Attend Chamber-wide meetings and report on them

Legal Research Assistant, Fiddler Law P.C., Minneapolis, MN, May-August 2014

- Assist attorney Mark Fiddler on research about the intersection of Native American tribal and US Adoption Law
- Collaborate on a law review article concerning impacts of his 2013 case at the US Supreme Court, *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl*
- Attend and assist with client meetings and court cases

Activities

Member of the GW University Honors Program August 2013-Present
Member of the DC Alpha chapter of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women, January 2014-Present
Communications Committee Chair
Member of the GW Pre-Law Student Association, *Public Relations Director* September 2013-Present

Publications

The George Washington University Undergraduate Law Review (2014)

- *The Constitutionality of the Death Penalty After Botched Executions*

The George Washington University Undergraduate Law Review (2013)

- *Adoption and Tribal Law: Can the Duality Be Reconciled?*

Skills

Editing: Proficient in Legal Bluebook

Computer: Microsoft Office Suite, Typing at 120 words per minute

Language: Spanish (High academic, working, and conversational proficiency)