



Leadership Initiative for Students with Disabilities



The Washington Center's Leadership Initiative for Students with Disabilities, supported by AT&T, The Coca-Cola Foundation, The Kessler Foundation and Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation, ensures that students are equipped with the tools needed for postgraduate success.

College students selected to participate earn academic credit while interning, studying and exploring the nation's capital. TWC supports students so that they can complete classroom and workplace responsibilities and live comfortably in our housing facilities.

The Three TWC Program Components

Internship

TWC serves students in many majors and interest areas. Our substantive, exciting internships help students transition from the classroom to a professional setting. Students gain real world experience, develop professional skills and form a clearer understanding of their career path.

Past students have interned at sites such as the Department of the Interior, EarthShare, U.S. Small Business Administration, Department of Health and Human Services and Studio Theatre.

Academic Course

All students will attend an academic course one evening per week. TWC offers approximately 25 different courses in a wide variety of subjects.

LEAD Colloquium

Students will take part in small group discussion, hear from prominent speakers as part of our Alan K. Simpson–Norman Y. Mineta Leaders Series, learn about civic engagement and carry out direct service in the community. They will also have the opportunity to attend panel discussions, site visits and briefings specific to their career interest as part of the professional track.

Accommodations

Below are some of the requests we've been able to fulfill in the past:

Classroom

- Note-takers
- Sign-language interpreting
- Readers
- Alternative format materials (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.)
- Extended time for assignments
- Audio Records
- Jaws Screen Recording Software
- Dragon Naturally Speaking Software
- Alternative location for testing.

Identifying Disabilities

The Washington Center actively works with students to provide reasonable accommodations on a wide spectrum of disabilities that fall under ADA guidelines. Examples of disabilities that TWC has accommodated include but are not limited to:

- Blindness
- Deafness
- Learning disabilities
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Autism
- Cerebral palsy
- HIV/AIDS
- Schizophrenia
- Muscular dystrophy
- Bipolar disorder
- Major depression
- Multiple sclerosis
- Missing limbs or partially missing limbs
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Impairments requiring the use of a wheelchair
- Intellectual disability
- Mobility impairments

Important Deadlines and Dates

Spring 2018 Priority Deadline
October 11, 2017

Spring 2018 Regular Deadline
November 15, 2017

Summer 2018 Priority Deadline
February 21, 2018

Summer 2018 Regular Deadline
March 14, 2018

For more information, please contact
Email: info@twc.edu

The Washington Center
for Internships and Academic Seminars
1333 16th Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20036-2205

Workplace

TWC actively works to educate students on how to advocate for themselves in the workplace in order to obtain accommodations. While accommodations vary from placement to placement, past workplace accommodations have included the following:

- Assistive technologies—both software and hardware (JAWS, TextHelp)
- Sign Language Interpreting
- Note-takers
- Readers
- Alternative format materials (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.)

Living

Students who choose TWC housing will live in a shared apartment in one of our residential facilities which are all located in the NOMA neighborhood near Capitol Hill and Union Station. Units are typically two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments that house four people. All apartments come furnished and include utilities, basic cable, and wireless internet.

- Roll-in showers
- Hand-held shower heads
- Flashing smoke detectors
- Lowered appliances
- Electronic door openers
- Private bedrooms
- Braille-labeled apartments
- Automatic door opener

Scholarships

Qualifying students will earn scholarships that help to offset the cost of participation. Although amounts vary, most scholarships are between \$500 and \$4,000. To be considered, students should:

- Indicate interest on the scholarships section of the application.
- Provide TWC with documentation from a physician or campus disability services office.
- Upon acceptance, return to the student portal to complete the disability services application if accommodations are required.

To learn more about our scholarship offerings contact us at financialaid@twc.edu, or visit <http://www.twc.edu/campaign/leadership-initiative-students-disabilities>.

How to Apply

To apply for The Washington Center, visit our website at www.twc.edu to complete an online application. For help identifying your campus liaison or to learn more about fees and credit arrangements at your institution contact info@twc.edu.

Testimonials



Julie Eller, Summer 2016, Intern at Arthritis Foundation, Stockton University

"TWC has offered me the opportunity for professional and personal growth. I have learned to accept and embrace my disability as something that is a part of my life but that does not define me. Each lesson has impacted me in such a way that as I progress in my career in public health, I will be able to empathize with the communities I serve and encourage them to become active members of the policy process."



George-Thomas Svanikier, Spring 2016, Intern at Citigroup Management Inc., Washington College

"I am passionate about business as well as politics, and my time at The Washington Center has driven my passion even further. Representing Citi at Senate hearings and trade dialogues has confirmed my love for politics and has made me even more excited about the idea of becoming a Member of Congress someday."