The Washington Center’s Leadership Initiative for Students with Disabilities, supported by AT&T, The Coca-Cola Foundation, The HSC 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 will 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.
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 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

Danielle Ware, spring 2015, intern at Offender Aid and Restoration, Guilford College

“The TWC experience has challenged my points of view, strengthened my proficiencies, allowed me to grow as an individual and shed light on my professional field of interest. With all I have learned, I feel better prepared to face any challenge that may come my way.”

Brandon Rivero, summer 2015, intern at United States Marshals Service, Florida International University

“I came into this internship believing I knew what my future was going to be. My experience with TWC has broadened my choices and completely changed my path for the better.”