



# CBO's 2018 Summer Internships

Whether taking a deep dive into policy research or supporting the daily administration of the agency, the Congressional Budget Office's summer associates enjoyed many professionally and intellectually enriching opportunities during their 10-week internships this year. At CBO, interns are not summertime coffee caddies; they are engaged fully with their divisions and provide meaningful contributions to them—for example, writing a summary statement to accompany a major publication, conducting a cost estimate for proposed environmental legislation, and analyzing the cost-effectiveness of the military's practices for decommissioning fighter jets.

Life for this year's summer associates was not just work. Many were standouts on CBO's softball team, took advantage of the Congressional Summer Intern Lecture Series, attended cultural events in Washington, or watched fireworks from the steps of the Capitol on the Fourth of July. By the end of their internships, they had immersed themselves in the nation's capital and gained a deeper understanding of how CBO operates and serves the Congress.



The George Washington U.  
Master's, Public Policy

*I was immediately able to contribute to the work of the Budget Analysis Division by researching information for several cost estimates for proposed legislation. I worked on estimates covering topics from shark conservation to space traffic management to the preservation of national historic sites. To inform my work, I took advantage of briefings and Congressional events related to those topics. I also prepared case studies and conducted research to better understand the different practices that federal agencies use to promulgate regulations and what resources are necessary to support that rulemaking. Throughout the summer, I collaborated with fellow CBO staff and contacts at various federal agencies. In addition, I was*

*able to apply the research and analytical skills that I have acquired through my coursework. And attending weekly seminars educated me about the role that CBO and the legislative branch play in the policymaking process.*



U. of Alabama  
Ph.D., Economics

*I was able to apply some of the financial and economic theory that I've learned in graduate school to **real-world questions that CBO faces** about the Federal Housing Administration's reverse home mortgage guarantees. I modeled the profit-maximizing behavior of private lenders and investigated the competitiveness of regional reverse mortgage markets. That hands-on research experience under the guidance of CBO's analysts has enhanced my research skills at a particularly important point in my academic career.*

*And I got to play as well as work! I was welcomed to the agency's softball team, the Dynamic Scorers, as soon as my internship began. The organization-wide camaraderie is great, but those of us on the softball team are particularly close. So not only have I contributed work that is important and appreciated, I've made great friends in this community of friendly, intelligent, policy-minded people.*



U. of Wisconsin–Madison  
Master's, Public Affairs

*My internship project was to incorporate the effects of state and local taxes into CBO's periodic analyses of how means-tested transfers and taxes affect the distribution of household income in the United States. After reviewing and summarizing past research on property taxes and other state and local taxes, **I proposed several approaches that CBO could use for its analysis.** I then compiled and analyzed data from the Census Bureau and other sources to explore the feasibility of those strategies and produced preliminary findings. My coursework in fiscal policy and data management were particularly useful for my internship, as was my previous work experience summarizing technical research findings for policymakers and researchers.*

*I benefited from interacting with CBO's knowledgeable, skilled, and friendly staff. I would highly recommend the experience to other students interested in gaining exposure to rigorous, nonpartisan policy research and analysis.*



U. of Wisconsin–Madison  
Master's, Public Affairs



U. of Minnesota  
Ph.D., Applied Economics



Morehouse College  
B.A., Accounting



Clemson U.  
B.S., Computer Science



U. of Central Florida  
B.S., Information Technology



St. John's U. School of Law  
J.D.



U. of Southern California  
Master's, Public Policy



Indiana U.  
Master's, Public Affairs