

## Regulatory Communications Internship – Fall 2017

Come be a part of Public Citizen's communications team and learn how one of Washington, D.C.'s original public interest watchdog groups spreads its messages and reaches out to the media. You've heard that corporations have lobbyists; we are the people's lobbyists, representing the public in the halls of power on a variety of critical issues. We fight for public health and safety, champion corporate and government accountability, and campaign for fair trade, clean and safe energy, and consumer rights. We work aggressively to get our message out in print, radio, television and online.

During your internship, you'll get to attend briefings and hearings on Capitol Hill and around D.C., go to local protests and rallies, and work alongside some of the nation's leading public policy experts, advocates and communicators. This internship is a rare opportunity to learn how to make a big difference on the issues that matter while getting some great experience for your résumé!

As the regulatory communications intern, you'll be working closely with Public Citizen's press officer on regulatory affairs. Most of the projects you work on will help defend our nation's system of public protections: the rules, standards, safeguards issued by federal agencies that protect American workers, consumers and families and our environment from reckless and greedy corporations. Public Citizen and our coalition allies are on the front lines of the fight to defend these essential protections from attacks by the current administration and congress. As you will learn, the impacts of deregulation are incredibly broad and potentially devastating, touching virtually every political issue and constituency group under the sun.

Because this internship focuses on communications in the regulatory affairs domain, we're looking for someone with an interest in public policy who also appreciates the importance of translating complex ideas and arguments into clear and impactful messages. We don't expect you to be a policy wonk or communications expert – but you should have at least a general sense of what federal agencies like the EPA, the CFPB and the SEC do, as well as an interest in learning more about the regulatory process and the federal budget. College students focusing on public policy, public administration, political communications, political science or political psychology are encouraged to apply.

We're looking for an undergraduate intern for the 2017 fall semester for a minimum of 15 hours a week (we're happy to work around your schedule of classes). While this is an unpaid position, you can get academic credit for your work if your school permits – and you will walk away with deliverables at the end of the semester (writing samples, graphical memes, etc.) that you can share with future employers.

### **Responsibilities:**

Interns will have a varied and interesting range of assignments. Key components of the job are:

- Writing and proofreading press materials, blog posts and articles for our newsletter.
- Pitching upcoming press conferences and events to reporters.

- Taking photos and/or videotaping press conferences and other events, and creating videos for our websites.
- Providing administrative support with research, database management, press list maintenance and data entry, among other tasks.
- Helping us maintain our Twitter and Facebook accounts by creating social media content and graphic memes.
- Uploading coalition blog content to Wordpress websites and tagging it appropriately.
- Assembling daily news clips on a variety of issues and compiling media hits.

### **Qualifications:**

- Strong writing and communication skills.
- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Ability to follow directions and pay close attention to instructions.
- A general familiarity with current events.
- Eagerness to learn and pitch in when needed.
- Experience with Wordpress, graphic design and video production are helpful but not required.

### **To Apply:**

Please send your cover letter, résumé and a brief writing sample to Angela Bradbery, Communications Director, [abradbery@citizen.org](mailto:abradbery@citizen.org), or 1600 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

### **Testimonials:**

"The Public Citizen communications department will immerse you in a wide variety of assignments and activities. I did what felt like it all: media relations, writing, proofreading, research and even got to go on a few "field trips" on assignments. All of this experience has really helped me appear like a well-rounded and prepared candidate for other communications positions. Not to mention, I was able to take some of the work I did with Public Citizen and use them as valuable writing samples for my career portfolio. All in all, my Public Citizen communications internship experience was great! If I could do it again, I would! I feel as if this experience prepared me for future success and it has the potential to prepare anyone else as long as he or she is willing to put in the work and be willing to learn."

**- Brianna, summer 2016**

"Interning in the Communications Department of Public Citizen gave me a hands-on experience not only of consumer advocacy but of the U.S. federal government. Covering press events and congressional hearings allowed me insight to events that I would otherwise not have had access to. The diverse responsibilities of the internship allowed me to hone skills not just in written communication, but in videography, photography, and telecommunications and feel confident in designing media strategies. The other colleagues in the communications department were not just welcoming and friendly, but genuinely interested in teaching and mentoring me. I felt well supported and well challenged. Overall incredibly useful and exciting internship; I highly

recommend!"

**- Molly, summer 2016**

"I really liked the office dynamic and how you the staff treated both the interns and each other as friends and not just cookie cutter co-workers. It was a huge incentive to have such awesome and friendly people around me. Not only that but I learned a lot during this internship. Coming in I didn't really know anything about communications (as it was not my major), but after realizing what the communications department does and how closely knit the entire department is with everything inside and outside the organization, it made me think about possibly having a career in this. Whether it's something as tedious as editing papers to creating an entire press release that undergoes edits before publishing, it was a very good learning experience and worthwhile above all else."

**- Brent, summer 2016**