



Position Posting: Internship for Public Witness

Position: Intern for Public Witness

Location: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness, Washington, DC
<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/washington/>

Description: We believe that formation of servant leaders and advocates is vital to the public policy ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Internship for Public Witness seeks to provide substantive, formative work and guidance for persons seeking experience and vocational discernment in the church and in the public square.

The Office of Public Witness (OPW) in Washington, DC, is the public policy, information and advocacy office of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The OPW carries out a ministry of public policy, communicating the social witness positions of the Presbyterian General Assembly to decision makers in Washington, DC, and educating and empowering Presbyterians to be effective advocates and faithful citizens. The OPW Internship for Public Witness offers a unique opportunity for persons seeking experience and vocational discernment to encounter numerous aspects of Public Witness ministry, to develop their skills, and to think theologically about the role of the church in the public square.

There is increased need for focused attention on domestic and international issues of justice and peace. The intern will be assigned a public policy issue or portfolio of issues to follow through the political and decision-making process. This may include compiling news reports and writing articles for publication; communicating Presbyterian General Assembly positions to Members of Congress and their staff as well as representatives of the Executive Branch; attending congressional hearings; obtaining bill text and testimony; providing analysis of bills and legislative outlook; working in coalition with the faith community; and producing issue-based resources accessible to a general audience.

In addition to an issue portfolio, the intern will also be assigned outreach, communications, and/or event planning tasks, which may include web communications, maintenance of the online action alert system, planning an event or workshop at Ecumenical Advocacy Days or the Presbyterian Big Tent, or another special project. Other duties may also be assigned.

Qualifications: A commitment to the social justice and interest in working for a societal change; Strong written and verbal communications skills; Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and work effectively as a member of a team; Self-motivation, dependability, creativity, flexibility and problem-solving skills; Good “people skills” to communicate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds; Experience with standard office software, including Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and willingness to learn new computer skills.

This job description is not intended to include a complete list of all duties and responsibilities required for the internship and is subject to review and change at any time in accordance with the needs of the ministry. Because no job description can detail all duties and responsibilities that may be required in the performance of a position, duties and responsibilities that may be inherent to the position shall be considered as part of the intern’s responsibility.

Compensation: The Internship for Public Witness is unpaid, but we are willing to work with candidates who have secured their own funding support or are seeking academic credit, whether through churches or through a college, university, or seminary internship or field education program.

Term: Applications for internships during a school year, a school semester or a summer are invited.

Application: To apply, please submit resume, references, and cover letter by email to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness to the attention of Leslie Woods at leslie.woods@pcusa.org. Please note “Internship for Public Witness” in the subject line. In the cover letter, please specify interest in domestic and/or international issues and the term (i.e. summer, fall semester, academic year, etc.).