

PLS 494: Potential Internship Opportunities within & around MI State Government

Below is a list of sites you can apply for Fall or Spring internships. These are all great opportunities depending on your interest. Please note any deadlines. Always send internship sites your resume and a cover letter and, of course, any additional material they might be asking for (e.g., application form, writing sample). Of course, if you need any advice or someone to look over your application materials, please don't hesitate to ask me (Marty Jordan, Ph.D.: jordan61@msu.edu).

Importantly, this list is not exhaustive. There may be several other internship opportunities available in the area, including with the county, townships, or non-governmental organizations. If you are looking for someplace specific that is not on the list, let me know. If you are looking for something involving a particular policy area (e.g., education, environment, human rights, health), let me know. An advocacy group or state agency may be a good fit for you. Of course, you should also do some research on your own. **Be sure to LIKE and check the [MSU Political Science Internship Facebook page](#) where specific opportunities are regularly posted.** "Handshake" is another useful tool for finding internship opportunities. While you should cast a wide net, considering multiple opportunities, also be sure to target your materials for each placement.

- **State of Michigan Internships:**

https://www.michigan.gov/mdcs/0,4614,7-147-43903_59861_59621-260262--,00.html. You can use this site to search for various internships in the state of Michigan. Click on "Jobs and Internships" and do a general search for "internship" and see what comes up.

- **Gov. Whitmer's Office:** <https://sombgovweb.state.mi.us/InternshipWeb>. This is a great internship opportunity. Do not procrastinate on applying, as it is highly competitive. The Governor's Office prioritizes Michigan residents and those with GPAs above 2.5. Typically, the Governor's Office asks you to submit a resume and a writing sample. Be sure your writing sample is clear, free of errors, and showcases your professionalism, potential work product, and abilities.

- **MI House of Representatives:** http://house.michigan.gov/Jobs/employment_interns.asp. You can use this site to apply for a general internship in the House or find a specific office to apply to. If you have a particular Representative you want to work with, you should send them your resume and cover letter expressing your interest, even if they are not directly advertising. For example, if you are a Michigan resident, the state representative for your home district may be an excellent office to contact first. Here is additional information on the [MI House's Legislative Fellowship Program](#), which pays a few fellows each semester, \$15 an hour, to work with House offices. This program is competitive and typically has a deadline in early April for the Fall semester or early October for the Spring semester.

- **MI Senate:** <https://senate.michigan.gov/employment.html>. This is a list of senate offices that are advertising. Don't feel limited to this list. You should send your resume to any (or as many) individual Senate offices as you like, even if they are not advertising. Again, if you are a Michigan resident, the State Senator representing your home district may be a good office to reach out to first.

- **MI Republican Party:** https://www.migop.org/internship_program

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- **MI Democratic Party:** Email letter and resume to Jim Johnson, Office Manager at jjohnson@michigandems.com. Internship opportunities are sometimes posted here: <https://michigandems.com/jobs/>.
- **Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council:** https://www.midmeac.org/join_education-advocacy-volunteerism/internships/
- **Michigan Environmental Council:** <https://www.environmentalcouncil.org/careers>
- **City of Lansing:** <https://www.lansingmi.gov/1693/Internships>. Here you can find more information about the City's internships with the City Clerk's Office, Elections, and Records Management. For an internship with Mayor Andy Shor, send your resume and cover letter to Leslie McCarrick, Office Manager; City of Lansing – Office of Mayor Andy Schor; 124 W. Michigan Ave. | Lansing, MI 48933; O: 517-483-4145 | C: 517-648-7237 | E: Leslie.mccarrick@lansingmi.gov. (use her email to apply)
- **Ingham County Prosecutor's Office:** The Prosecutor's Office frequently looks for victim advocates to provide direct services to victims of crimes, make victims aware of their rights, provide court advocacy, make referrals to social service and employment agencies, and try to reduce domestic violence in the area. Contact Maria Valayil, Domestic Violence Unit Coordinator, (517) 483-6259, or via email at mvalayil@ingham.org. Please include your name, address, phone number, and area of interest or major. For more information, see here: https://pa.ingham.org/courts_and_sheriff/prosecuting_attorney/internship_opportunities.php.
- **Capital Area Response Effort (CARE) Lansing Police Department:** <https://www.lansingmi.gov/725/Volunteer-Internship-Opportunities>. CARE aims to reduce family violence in Ingham County by drawing on the resources of various community groups to intervene with families affected by domestic violence. This could be a great opportunity for anyone interested in social work, issues of domestic/sexual abuse, or criminal justice policy
- **U.S. Rep. Elisa Slotkin's Regional Office:** <https://slotkin.house.gov/internships>. If interested, contact Samantha Woll, Deputy District Director; Representative Elissa Slotkin MI-8; 1100 W. Saginaw St. Suite 3a, Lansing; 517-993-0510; email: Samantha.Woll@mail.house.gov. Send your resume and cover letter. These internships are also highly competitive.
- **Refugee Development Center:** <http://refugeedevelopmentcenter.org/internships/>. This could be an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in international relations/ immigration policy, one of the few occasions in this area in Lansing.

Below is a list of Lobbying and Public Relations firms in the area. The placements in **bold** are ones where we have placed students in the past. On the others, feel free to visit their websites and find a contact email and send them your resume and cover letter.

- **Lobbying Firms:**

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- Capitol Affairs, Inc. (Lansing, MI) <http://www.capaffairs.com/> (Robert Kennedy robert@capaffairs.com)
- Dodak Johnson <http://dodakjohnson.com/>
- Dykema <http://www.dykema.com/offices-lansing-michigan.html>
- The Frederick Group <http://www.frederickgroup.net/>
- **Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. (GCSI)**
<http://www.gcsionline.com/> (Mary Pearce – pearce.m@gcsionline.com)
- Judy A. Augenstein and Associates (Lansing, MI) <http://augensteingee.com/>
- Karoub Associates <http://karoubassociates.com/>
- **Kelley Cawthorne**, <http://www.kelley-cawthorne.com/> (Natasha Oxender – noxender@kelley-cawthorne.com)
- McAlvey, Merchant, and Associates
<http://www.mcalvey.com/Profiles/tabid/63/Default.aspx>
- McKinney and Associates (Lansing, MI)
<http://www.mckinneyandassociates.net/>
- **Michigan Government Strategy Consultants (MGSC)**,
<http://www.michgovstrategy.com/> (Sarah Cook – cook@michgovstrategy.com)
- Michigan Legislative Consultants <http://www.mlcmi.com/>
- Midwest Strategy Group (Lansing, MI) <http://midweststrategy.com/>
- Muchmore, Harrington, Smalley, and Associates (MHSA)
<http://www.mhsa.com/>
- **Public Affairs Associates (PAA)** <http://www.paaonline.com/> (Meghan Sanders – Meghan@paaonline.com)

PR Firms:

- Truscott Rossman: <http://www.truscottrossman.com/> - <https://www.truscottrossman.com/who-we-are/intern-with-tr/>
- Martin Waymire: <http://martinwaymire.com/>
- Lezotte Miller: <http://www.lezottemiller.com/>

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- Marketing Research Group: <http://mrgmi.com/>
- Lambert Edwards and Associates: <http://lambert-edwards.com/>

Others:

- **Public Policy Associates (PPA)** (<https://publicpolicy.com/>): PPA provides quantitative and qualitative research, evaluation, and strategic consultation to help our clients make better decisions. They specialize in **Education, Workforce Development, Criminal and Juvenile Justice**, and **Healthy Communities**. Their staff and consultants combine extensive education, cutting-edge policy analysis and research skills, and real-world expertise to deliver valued results to clients nationwide. PPA's clientele includes a wide range of organizations: federal, state, and local governments as well as foundations, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions and others. Check out **paid** internship opportunities here: <https://publicpolicy.com/about-us/ppa-careers/>.
- **Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)**: (<https://www.purelansing.com/>). LEAP is the economic development organization proudly representing the tri-county region of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties in partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. They are a private-public partnership governed by a board of directors including business and municipal leaders from across the tri-county region. LEAP offers unpaid project-based internships and apprenticeships to current college students, University Fellows, and recent graduates. Positions are available spring, summer, and fall. If interested in an internship, contact Victoria Meadows, Vice President of Marketing and Communications (victoria@purelansing.com; 517.702.3387 x 209).
- **County Road Association of Michigan** (<https://micountyroads.org/>): A countywide governmental agency comprised of staff and a three- or five-member board of directors. Responsible for safe, efficient roads and bridges. Works collaboratively with county, township and municipal governments, as well as local business communities and economic development agencies, industries and the public. Contact Ed Noyola, Deputy Director regarding an internship: enoyola@micountyroads.org.
- **Governmental offices in your hometown**: You might consider reaching out to your local city, county, or township government offices (e.g., mayor, city manager, clerk, city council, school board, county commissioners). Many of these offices may need interns to support citizens and help with a backlog of work.