

Internship Program

For information regarding the Chickasaw Nation internship program or to receive an application, please contact:

The Chickasaw Nation
Education Division
P.O. Box 1548
Ada, OK 74821-1548
(580) 421-7711
(580) 310-9535 (fax)

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"I learned different aspects of the legal division and how professional and committed they are to what they do. This is a unique opportunity to take part in things I haven't experienced before. The people in that office are nice and cheerful. I can't say enough about the legal division." Josh Davis, Chickasaw Nation Justice Division intern 2006



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the
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The Purpose...

As the Chickasaw Nation faces the challenge of balancing tribal sovereignty with maintaining a collaborative relationship with the federal government, it is crucial that future, young Chickasaw leaders are trained and encouraged to build relationships with policymakers throughout Indian Country and the United States Capitol. The Chickasaw Nation internship program provides opportunities for student ambassadors to build bridges, one relationship at a time, in an effort to address numerous issues facing the unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation. The program is designed to train young leaders to identify problems and implement lasting solutions through collaborative working relationships with other tribes, governments and community business leaders.



"While working with the Lighthorse Police Department, I gained knowledge and experience to apply to my field of study and to my everyday life. I value the time I have spent here and the teaching that I received." Ashley Hart, Lighthorse Police Department intern 2006



Our Mission...

The mission of the internship program is to work in partnership with government and business leaders across the country to provide an exclusive educational opportunity to the leading students of the Chickasaw Nation. The program is a tool designed to have a direct impact on the future of the tribe by nominating and supporting participants who will return home with the experience to be a leader in the Chickasaw Nation.

Program Benefits...

The Chickasaw Nation will provide:

- 6-8 week internship opportunity
- Bi-weekly pay
- One round trip ticket to the location of their intern site
- Housing accommodations

Program Components...

The internship program is conducted at different times throughout the year in locations determined by the Chickasaw Nation. Once an intern has been selected, staff will work with the student and employer to determine exact dates.

Intern sites include, but are not limited to:

- Governmental Offices: Indian Health Service, Environmental Protection Agency, State Offices, etc.
- Congressional or Senate Offices
- Native American Organizations
- Native Owned or Operated Businesses
- Chickasaw Nation Offices or Businesses

To qualify applicants must:

1. Complete an intern application and submit all documentation to the education division
2. If selected, sign an agreement to participate in the program

"(The internship) is a big benefit because it's a hands-on experience working with people who do it everyday. I was able to make great contacts for the future and the people I met made a big impact on me."

Kristen Dorsey, Chickasaw Cultural Center intern 2006