



30,000 Feet Up at the Texas Legislature

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Professional Development

SUMMARY

From January 3, 2019 to May 30, 2019 I interned full-time in the Budget office of Texas Governor Greg Abbott. My role in the office varied depending on the needs of the office at any given time. My main assignments and projects throughout the internship included policy analysis over bills related to higher education and taxation, data analysis for decisions related to transportation, higher education, and property taxes, and drafting and editing final documents for the Governor and his senior staff to assist in final policy decisions. In addition to the substantive workload, I also was able to enjoy the incredible opportunities Austin provided, which included two policy conference, several legislative receptions, and a gala. All of which included free food!



SPICES

Professional Development – Interning full-time for five months introduced me to my first long-term professional opportunity. Skills - This internship was my first in which I was able to conduct actual policy research that then had an impact on real legislation.

HERBS

Interning in the OOG required me to have honor and respect for the institution as well as practice resilience in the heat of the Texas Legislature.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Adaptability and Resilience- When the Texas Legislature starts, you're thrown in the fire. **Project Management-** Analyzed, tracked, and recommended a course of action over 13 bills related to higher education. **Communicating Effectively-** Briefed the Chief of Staff on several policy recommendations.



IMPACT

As an intern in any organization, one of the primary roles is to be a support for the full-time staff. My major contributions in this role during my internship included drafting 25 and editing over 70 final analyses for the Governor and his senior staff, producing a policy outline for specific bills related to higher education, and analyzing over 100,000 cells in excel to assist in determining the effects of property tax reform.

ADVICE

If you have the chance/time in your degree plan to intern at the Texas Capitol, I highly recommend you do.