



# The Indian American Forum for Political Education

<[www.iafpenc.org](http://www.iafpenc.org)>

## *2009 Summer Internship Application*

Since 1994, IAFPE has sponsored over 100 college students for its Summer Political Internship Program. In its fifteenth year, the program is stronger than ever.

### **Program Objectives:**

- Provide college going Indian American students with a unique opportunity to learn first-hand about the political process and what it takes to get involved
- Increase local college level membership and commitment to IAFPE.
- Create and foster a growing network of current and former interns to increase involvement and support for IAFPE activities nationally.
- Develop future political thinkers and leaders of Indian origin.
- Engage young adults in IAFPE activities to strengthen its total community resource base and have them participate in running and energizing the organization.

### **Program Description:**

The interns will spend 8-10 weeks working in the office of a congressman or senator at the state or federal level, at a non-government agency, or for political parties. Past interns have worked at the Office of the Attorney General, White House, Congress, State House, Indian Embassy and in various governmental agencies such as the Department of Energy. Interns should make their own arrangement for room and board, as well as transportation. **Based on the availability of funds,** a limited number of interns will be awarded a stipend. Stipends will be awarded to those interns who demonstrate exemplary performance in their internships and show leadership in their community projects. All interns will be assigned a mentor upon entering the program to guide their development.

**Community Project:** All interns will complete a volunteer project for IAFPE concurrent with their internship. This year's interns will undertake community based Forum projects such as Forum Town meetings, data-base preparation, organization of Health-Fairs and Immigration Clinics and publicity and journalism. Each intern will be assigned a community project, or in some cases an intern may design their own project. Interns will be attending weekly or biweekly meetings with IAFPE sponsors and fellow interns. Weekly progress reports on Internship experience and planning of community project will be expected from all interns via email.

### **Selection criteria:**

- Applications must be submitted by **April 1, 2009**. Decisions for select internship positions may be made on a rolling basis.
- **Applicants must become members of The IAFPE** and be committed to the advancement of the goals and objectives of the organization by actively participating in The Forum.



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- All candidates may be required to submit to a personal interview in addition to the written application.
- All internship recipients agree to volunteer and participate in subsequent Summer Internship Programs or to serve The Forum in a related volunteer capacity.
- Applicants must be current college students in good standing with their institutions.
- Applicant must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents of Indian origin. Applicants with a strong interest in and or ties to the Indian American community who are not of Indian origin are also welcome to participate.
- A limited number of stipends will be awarded to interns who demonstrate exemplary performance in their internships. Amount and number of Monetary Internship Awards will depend **strictly on the availability of funds** (over the last ten years we have sponsored over 100 interns and many have typically received stipends in the range of \$500 to \$800.00 for their internship). Payment of stipend will be contingent upon successful completion of internship and community project, and submission of an intern's report and based on appraisal of intern's performance by manager/supervisor.
- Past interns may re-apply. However, they will not be eligible for a Monetary Internship Award if they have previously received one.
- To apply for an internship opportunity please submit your application and all efforts will be made to secure an internship for you depending on your interest and state of origin.
- Applicants will be notified no later than **May 1st, 2009.**

### **Application Instructions**

#### **Deadline for submission of application is April 1st, 2009**

- Please detach this application and save to your computer as a Word document with the following filename: <**yournameIAFPEapplication.doc**>. Please complete **all** sections of the application in ONE Word document (the resume may be attached as a separate file, if needed).
- Please directly type your responses to questions in Sections I, II, III, VI, and VII in the document into the field to the right of the question asked.
- Please copy transcript (official/unofficial) into the Word document and attach it with your application.
- Please include your responses to the essay questions in Section V at the end of the Word document.

Applications should be submitted electronically (*strongly preferred*). Please contact us if you must mail the application. Please direct any inquiries regarding the program or the application process to one of the email addresses below.

**Please E-Mail completed applications to the address below:**

[intern.program@forum-nc.org](mailto:intern.program@forum-nc.org)

**If you have any questions then contact  
Dr. Kalpana Shah at 919-848-1850.**



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**I. Personal Information:**

Name:  
Current Address:  
Current Phone Number:  
Current Address Valid Until:  
Permanent Address:  
Permanent Phone Number:  
E-Mail Address:

**I. Educational Information:**

Name of the College/ University:  
Year of Graduation:  
Major(s):  
Career Interest(s):

**II. Internship Preference:**

Majority of internship placements will be in the RTP area. Please indicate if you would like to be considered for a placement outside RTP area .

I would like to consider the following cities:

Please rank (1, 2, 3...) the type of internship you are interested in: *(Please note: As per individual program requirements, some internships may require submission of additional application materials or information):*

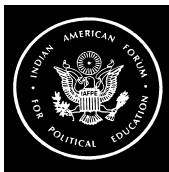
	<u><b>Rank:</b></u>	<u><b>Notes:</b></u>
Congressman:	_____	
Senator:	_____	
State House:	_____	
Government Agency (Specify):	_____	
Advocacy Group (Specify):	_____	
Other (Specify):	_____	
Does not matter:		

Dates Available:	Hours Available:
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Please indicate your areas of interest for a summer position ('x' all that apply):

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government Affairs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Community Development<br><input type="checkbox"/> Science & Technology<br><input type="checkbox"/> Campaigns/Conventions | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Policy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Law & Society<br><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Policy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Journalism/Media |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Comments:



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### III. Cover Letter, Resume & Transcript:

With this application form please include a cover letter, a copy of your official/unofficial transcripts, and a copy of your resume that describes your work experience, volunteer experience, activities and interests.

### IV. Essays:

1. Please address the following questions in a two-page response (total for all questions) and include it with your application.
  - a) What do you hope to gain by your experience as a political intern? How would this benefit you and your community?
  - b) What experiences have you had in the Indian community that inspired you to a political internship with The IAFPE?
  - c) What one political issue do you think affects members of our community the most? How would you propose to resolve this issue?
2. Please include a separate one page essay or detailed outline on how you propose to fulfill your IAFPE Community Project. (Please refer to the Community Project descriptions following) Briefly note how you will manage and divide your time between placement and community project during the summer of 2009. If you are also planning to work part time (not recommended) include that in your time management explanation. If you have an original idea for a Community Project, please describe it here.

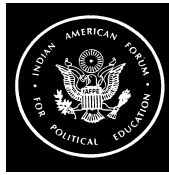
### V. Are you or is anyone in your family a Member of IAFPE.

1. Yes, I am a dues-paying member of The Forum.
2. Yes, my family is a dues-paying member of The Forum.  
Name of member(s): \_\_\_\_\_
3. No, I am not currently a member of IAFPE, but I am willing to become a member at the time of selection.

*Please note: Information on membership dues are available at The Forum website.*

### VI. How did you hear about the Internship Program? (Please 'x' all that apply)

- |                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ Past Interns         | _____ IAFPE Member                 |
| _____ IAFPE E-mail         | _____ Campus Poster/Flyer          |
| _____ Campus Career Center | _____ Community Radio/TV/Newspaper |
| _____                      | _____ Other (specify):             |



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### **IAFPE Community Project Descriptions:**

#### **Forum/Town Meetings: “Creating an Engaged Community”**

Interns will plan and execute a local town meeting. All details from publicity to inviting participants will be responsibility of intern. Work with IAFPE Forum members, other Indian Associations and local politicians for a grassroots get together, to raise awareness in community of the local as well as larger picture of American democratic process, the Patriot Act and Civil Rights infringements. The IAFPE Intern coordinator and local IAFPE members will assist intern with resources.

**Journalism/publicity:** Interns to cover and write articles about IAFPE events and events of interest to IAFPE for local media outlets; including but not limited to the Indian American media. Compose letters, brochures and other materials for IAFPE events.

**Citizenship Drive Database Preparation:** Interns will help provide mailing lists for publicity for Forum/Town Meetings, Immigration Clinics, Health Clinics and other related events. Interns will gather names and addresses of Indian Americans into usable database (Excel) thru local phone books and other resources to add to IAFPE database.

**Immigration Clinic & Health-Fair:** Interns will plan and execute an Immigration Clinic or Health Fair. All details from publicity to inviting professionals and participants will be responsibility of interns. The IAFPE Intern coordinator and local IAFPE members will assist intern with resources.

**Webmaster:** Create forum for all IAFPE interns and other members to keep in touch, exchange ideas, work and documents. Create private forum or IM forum/list for interns and program coordinators and mentors to stay in touch with each other.

**Self Designed Community Project:** Outline your idea of an appropriate community project for IAFPE approval. Compose a detailed plan on what you propose to do to, how, where, and when, and what resources you bring to the project as well as what assistance you may need.