

UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service

Students with an interest in public and social service careers find the University of Chicago's rigorous liberal arts education and strong interdisciplinary programs to be excellent preparation. Whether they gravitate toward community or international development, education, social service, public policy, or politics, students will find a vast array of opportunities through the UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service (UCIPSS) program.

Advising

Career Advancement provides the preparation, connections, and opportunities for students to pursue their career goals. Career Advancement has a staff of public and social service advisers with a wide range of experience in these sectors. These experts advise College students of any major, once they determine they have an interest in a career in public or social service.

Academic Courses

UCIPSS partners with the School of Social Service Administration, Urban Education Institute, and the Harris School of Public Policy to offer courses that provide an academic framework for examining social issues and concerns of interest to UCIPSS students.

UCIPSS Scholars Program

The UCIPSS Scholars Program is a selective program for fourth-year undergraduates seeking a post-graduation career in public or social service. During the quarter, students attend bi-weekly job search and professional skills workshops. Scholars receive one-on-one career advising and direct referrals to employers and alumni with professional opportunities.

University of Chicago Public Interest Program

This program places graduating UChicago students in full-time, yearlong fellowships in non-profit, education, or public interest organizations that offer unique training and educational experiences. Students have worked for many top organizations including, the Civic Consulting Alliance, Chicago Legal Clinic, and the Illinois State Board of Education.

Workshops and Guest Speakers

Numerous workshops and panels each quarter focus on skill-building and career exploration. Many include training on how to find jobs and internships, connect with alumni and employers, and navigate the government application process. Throughout the year, UCIPSS hosts panel discussions on education, politics, foundations, international affairs, human rights advocacy, direct service, and more. Some past workshops and speakers include:

- Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- CIA
- Taproot Foundation
- ACLU

UChicago Degree AB'12,
Political Science
and French
Home Okemos, MI
Occupation Legal
Advocate, Homeless
Advocacy Project



DAMI OBARO

Planning life after graduation is difficult enough, but in a field with many options like public service, it can seem downright impossible. Luckily UCIPSS was there to help! The support of the counselors and my fellow scholars made a scary process so much easier! I am very grateful."

Special Events

UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service students have access to enriching opportunities. Past special events have included:

- Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation Competition
- Annual UCIPSS Kick-Off Networking Event

Site Visits

UCIPSS offers quarterly site visits for students to learn about the public interest sector. Past trips include visits to:

- Offices of Senator Richard Durbin
- National Opinion Research Center
- U.S. Department of Labor
- National Immigrant Justice Center

Treks

UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service students have the opportunity to travel and visit with firms all over the country in groups of 10 to 20 students. Led by advisers with relevant industry knowledge, trek destinations include:

- Washington, DC
- New York, NY
- Springfield, IL
- Chicago

Career & Internship Fairs

Career Advancement hosts two large-scale career fairs on campus each year for students looking for internships or full-time jobs.

Many organization representatives conduct interviews with students either during or immediately following career fairs.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

**Career
Advancement**

Office of Career Advancement

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Metcalfe Internship Opportunities

The Jeff Metcalfe Internship Program provides paid, substantive internships exclusively to UChicago students. UChicago Careers in Public and Social Service staff assist students in securing these internships. Some Metcalfe internships include:

- Access Community Health Network
- Association House of Chicago
- Beijing Global Village
- Better Government Association
- Brookings Institution
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
- Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- Chapin Hall
- Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- Chicago Crime Lab
- Chicago Federal Executive Board
- Chicago Public Schools
- Chicago Wilderness
- Chinese American Service League
- City of Chicago Mayor’s Office
- Civic Consulting Alliance
- Consortium of Chicago School Research
- Cook County Board
- District Management Council
- Environmental Law and Policy Center
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Green Corps
- Health Leads
- Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights
- Howard Brown Health Center
- Human Rights Watch
- Illinois Board of Education
- Illinois Facilities Fund
- Inspiration Corporation
- Latinos Progresando
- Metropolis Strategies
- New York Urban Fellows
- Partnership for Public Service
- Peace Corps
- Scholarship Chicago
- Smithsonian Institution
- Teach for America
- University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program
- Urban Prep Academies
- USAID
- U.S. Department of Labor
- U.S. Department of State
- YMCA of Metro Chicago
- Young Women’s Leadership Charter School

Partnership with Institute of Politics

Career Advancement and the Institute of Politics have partnered to further develop Metcalfe Internship opportunities in the public policy industry. From legislative offices to think-tanks to news agencies, students will have the chance to intern at a variety of organizations including:

- Argonne National Lab
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- Illinois State Board of Education
- New York City Department of Health
- New York City Campaign Finance Board

- New York State Council on the Arts
- Office of the Governor of Illinois - Health Insurance Exchange Implementation
- Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
- U.S. Attorney’s Office
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- U.S. Department of Treasury
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- U.S. Peace Corps
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- The White House

On-Campus Recruiting

The On-Campus Recruiting Program brings representatives from many top public sector, non-profit, and social service organizations to campus to interview students for summer internships and full-time opportunities. The UCIPSS advisers help identify internship opportunities and aid students in creating targeted application materials as well as prepare for interviews. Career Advancement hosts hundreds of organizations on campus through its recruiting program and career fairs. Additional organizations recruit via University of Chicago-specific job postings, resulting in thousands of internship and full-time opportunities for students. These encompass a wide range of public service sectors—including public policy, non-profit, government, and international policy and development—in locations across the United States and around the world. The Recruiting Immersion Camp is a two-day intensive workshop designed to build resume-writing, interviewing, and networking skills, as well as bolster self-confidence as students prepare for their job searches. It is open to all students.



SAM SCARROW
UChicago Degree AB’13,
 Political Science
Home Ambler, PA
Occupation
 Legislative Aide,
 Illinois State Legislature

“[UCIPSS] has helped me develop both tangible skills related to the job search as well as more intangible assets like a greater sense of clarity about my desired career path and a more coherent plan for following it.”



ROHAN SANDHU
UChicago Degree AB’12,
 Economics and Political Science
Home New Delhi, India
Occupation Research Assistant, Brookings Institution India Center

“Through UCIPSS’s resources, I have been able to work at a range of organizations – a think-tank, a foundation, a non-profit advisory organization, and local and national government – and thus developed a well-rounded understanding of this universe and how it corresponds to my own interests.”



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