

## Career Paths and Desired Skills

Public interest opportunities range widely. They include positions in government, think tanks, urban planning, public policy, nonprofits, and private/public sector partnerships. In these roles, students design and implement policies for positive impact. Career paths vary broadly, accommodating all student interests and strengths.

### FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Get started with these resources and stay up-to-date on policy events and internships!*

- **Sign up for industry newsletters** to get regular updates on opportunities in your area of interest
- **Explore the Jeff Metcalf Internship Program** to find paid, substantive internships around the world
- **Get personalized support** from a Careers in Policy, Government, & Nonprofits adviser:
  - **Maha Ezalarab** oversees all global health career programs drawing on her expertise in health policy research and implementation
  - **Tala Ali-Hasan** is a UChicago double alum with experience in public policy research and education policy
  - **Bethany Malzman** works closely with employers to create student opportunities with government agencies, think tanks, nonprofits, and more
  - **Paige Williams** is a UChicago double alum, drawing on her expertise in policy and non-profits to support students in the behavioral sciences
- **To subscribe to Career Advancement's events calendar**, [copy this calendar feed URL](#) and add to any calendar application. Contact [Career Advancement](#) with any questions.

### MEET EMPLOYERS AND BUILD YOUR POLICY SKILLS

*Stand out by engaging with employers, learning important skills, and building your policy expertise.*

- **Attend employer information** sessions to network with recruiters
- **Use the UChicago Alumni Directory** and other tools like LinkedIn to reach out to alumni at your target employers
- **Job shadow** with an alum working in government, policy, or a think tank
  - **Winter Break Job Shadowing (December 15 - 19):** Apply by November 10, 2025
  - **Spring Break Job Shadowing (March 16-20):** Apply by February 17
- **Apply for a policy career trek** to meet employers and learn about careers in policy. Upcoming treks include Atlanta, Santiago, Jakarta, New York and Washington, DC.
  - **Spring Break Treks (March 16-20):** Apply by January 20
- **Apply for the Summer Institute in Social Research Methods to get accelerated training in social science research methodologies.** Apply and join the community of 68 UChicago students who participated in the 2025 program!
- **Get involved with research** and work with a faculty member specializing in your field of interest
- **Apply for the FLAG Program** which offers awards of \$7,000 to support the costs of intermediate or advanced language study abroad.
- **Join a policy competition** like the **UChicago Impact Competition** on May 8, 2026
- **Sign up for the Metcalf Clinics Program** to work on an employer project with a team of peers. Apply by October 5, 2025
- **Complete a policy immersion program** like the [Hoover Institution](#), [Summer Policy Boot Camp](#) or the [Stimson Center Foreign Policy Futures Program](#)
- **Get Experience Abroad:** Participate in
  - [Wanxiang Ambassador Fellows Program](#) in China. Apply by November 14, 2025.
  - [Center for Global Health Summer Research Fellowship](#) with a partnering research sites across the globe. Apply by January 30, 2026
  - [ICSG Fellows Program](#) in India. Apply by March 1, 2026

### GET EXPERIENCE

*Get hands-on policy experience by interning with UChicago employer partners such as:*

- **National Security and Criminal Justice:** CIA, FBI, Cook County States' Attorney's Office, U.S. Attorneys' Offices
- **NGOs and Foundations:** Heartland Alliance, Human Rights Watch, Save the Children, United Nations
- **Policy Analysis and Advocacy:** Advance Illinois, Civic Consulting Alliance, National Immigrant Justice Center
- **Think Tanks:** Brookings Institution, Council on Foreign Relations, Milken Institute, Progressive Policy Institute

# POLICY, GOVERNMENT, & NONPROFITS — EVENTS

## Fall Quarter

- September 29 | UChicago's Fall 2025 Career Fair
- September 30 | Student Employment 101: Jobs, Work-Study & Community Connections
- Sept. 30 | UChicago Grad Programs Fair featuring 4+1 Advanced Scholars Programs
- October 2 | Student Employment 101: Jobs, Work-Study & Community Connections
- October 5 | Metcalf Clinics Application Deadline
- October 7 | Resumes for Policy Careers and Student Employment
- October 8 | Campus Research and Employment
- October 14 | UChicago Global Health and Social Development Student Symposium
- October 14 | Student Employment 101: Jobs, Work-Study & Community Connections
- October 24 | JAMfest: Arts and Humanities Opportunities on campus
- December 15 - 19 | Winter Break Trek
- December 15 - 19 | Winter Break Job Shadowing

## Winter Quarter

- January 8 | [Dine and Define Your Summer Plans](#)
- February | Careers in Germany Alumni Panel
- March 1 | ICSG Fellows Program Application
- March 16 - 20 | Spring Break Treks
- March 16 - 20 | Spring Break Job Shadowing

## Spring Quarter

- May 8 | Social Impact Competition

## Summer Quarter

- June -July | Wanxiang Ambassador Fellows Program (Hangzhou, China)
- June - August | Center for Global Health Summer Research Fellowship
- September | Summer Treks

# UPCOMING DEADLINES

## Fall Quarter

- October 13 | Winter Break Trek Application Deadline
- October/November | U.S. Department of State Summer Internship Applications Due
- October/November | U.S. Department of Treasury Full-Time Fellowships Due
- October 24 | Wanxiang Ambassador Fellows Application
- Nov 3 | Fall Deadline: 4+1 Programs
- November 10 | Winter Break Job Shadowing Deadline
- November 14 | Wanxiang Ambassador Fellows Application

## Winter Quarter

- Jan. 12 | Winter Deadline: 4+1 Programs
- January 20 | Spring Break Trek Application Deadline
- January 21 | Peace Corps Volunteer Application Window
- January 11 | Winter Metcalf Clinic Deadline
- February | Illinois Governor's Office Summer Internship Program application window
- February 17 | Spring Break Job Shadowing Deadline
- March 1 | ICSG Fellows Program Application

## Spring Quarter

- April 1 | Obama Foundation Voyager Scholarship
- Apr. 13 | Spring Deadline: 4+1 Programs
- April 14 | Global Health Scholars Program Applications Due
- Apr. 15 | Selective Career Cohorts
- April | Summer Trek Applications Due
  - Locations coming soon!



**Hamza Jilani, AB'24**

- Consultant, Civic Consulting Alliance
- Internships: Policy Research and Special Projects Intern, City of Chicago Office of the Mayor; Undergraduate Fellow, Civic Consulting Alliance



**Elizabeth Zazycki, AB'24**

- South Asia Junior Fellow, Stimson Center
- Internships: Boren Scholar, U.S. Department of Defense; Policy Fellow, People's Action