



INTERNSHIP IN BUILDING COMMUNITY

Affiliated with Columbia University's Summer Programs for High School Students

The Internship in Building Community (IBC) affords undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to participate in an extended program devoted to developing the interpersonal skills necessary to build communities.

The IBC is divided into two parts: a two-week Seminar led by professionals in the field of community building and a six-week Practicum. During the Practicum, interns serve as resident advisers and program assistants for Columbia University's Summer Program for High School Students. Using skills developed during the Seminar, interns are responsible for creating a cohesive, lively, and respectful student body.

THE SEMINAR – TWO WEEKS

During the Seminar, interns attend a series of workshops in which they examine the characteristics of successful communities. As the interns develop a community among themselves, special attention is paid to conditions that allow for harmony, productivity, and individual growth and empowerment.

Topics under consideration include:

Communication Skills

Conflict Resolution

Self-discovery through Personal Writing

Leadership and Management Skills

The Inherent Role of Policy and Rules in Community Building

One goal of the IBC Seminar is to develop a community of leaders who are equipped to serve as resident advisers and program assistants in Columbia's Summer Program for High School Students (*ce.columbia.edu/hs*). To that end, the Seminar includes sessions in which interns gain exposure to the history and resources of New York City and Columbia University, undergo the practical training required of all Columbia University resident advisers, and develop extracurricular activities that they will be responsible for implementing in the High School Program.

THE PRACTICUM – SIX WEEKS

The Practicum provides interns with the opportunity to apply the skills and plans developed in the Seminar.

As resident advisers, interns are each assigned a group of high school students with whom they live in a dormitory suite or on a dormitory floor. Interns are expected to embrace their custodial responsibility as a call to lead students through the process of building a functioning community in which mutual respect, personal and collective responsibility, and discipline are the hallmarks.

In addition to their basic resident adviser responsibilities, interns lead extracurricular activities both on campus and off. Interns also serve as all-purpose program assistants. They assemble student orientation materials, staff the High School Program office, ensure that students are attending class, and other projects.

Throughout the Practicum interns meet regularly to discuss the challenges they face and are in steady contact with their Team Leaders through group meetings and one-on-one conferences.

Interns are housed throughout the Practicum at no charge. Complimentary meals are provided Monday through Friday. Interns are reimbursed for all suite, trip, and activity expenses.

HOW TO APPLY

Only those applicants who still will be in college or graduate school in the fall are eligible. International students are required to have eligibility for employment in the United States. Interns receive a stipend, paid in installments over the course of the program. For more information about the stipend visit the website. Interns are awarded a Certificate of Accomplishment upon successful completion of the program.

Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Acceptance decisions are made on a rolling basis and there are a limited number of available positions; most are filled before the deadline.

Applicants may send the application form in advance of the supporting materials. Applications will not be considered until all materials have been received.

1. Completed Application Form
2. Sponsor Recommendation Letter
3. Personal Statement
4. Personal Interviews
5. Optional: Résumé

Go to ce.columbia.edu/ibc for the form.

For application questions and general information please email:
ibc-apply@columbia.edu.