

Where Technology Shapes Policy

Intern in Washington, DC, where technology, data, and policy intersect to shape the future of innovation. Gain hands-on experience applying your technical skills to real-world challenges while contributing to decisions that impact society on a global scale.



Why DC Is a Great Opportunity for Computer Science Students

Washington, DC, offers computer science students the chance to apply their technical skills in areas that directly shape public policy, cybersecurity, and innovation. Unlike traditional tech hubs, DC is home to government agencies, research institutes, and advocacy organizations where technology decisions influence national and global outcomes. This unique combination of technology and policy exposure makes DC an ideal place for computer science students to broaden their career pathways and build meaningful professional connections.

Take advantage of the opportunity to earn a minor in Politics and Public Policy by following the course sequence offered in DC and completing just one additional course in Pittsburgh. See reverse for more details on the CMU/WSP.

INTERNSHIP PATHWAYS

- **Cybersecurity & Technology Policy:** Contribute technical expertise to organizations shaping cybersecurity strategies, privacy protections, and tech regulations at the national and global levels
- **Data Science, AI & Civic Tech:** Apply data analytics, artificial intelligence, and coding skills to develop solutions that improve public services and inform evidence-based policy
- **Innovation & Interdisciplinary Technology:** Work at the intersections of technology, research, and policy, helping to drive advancements in emerging tech and interdisciplinary innovation



SAMPLE INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS



CYBERSECURITY & TECH POLICY

- Center for Democracy & Technology
- Department of Homeland Security
- National Institute of Standards & Technology



DATA SCIENCE, AI & CIVIC TECH

- The Lab @ DC
- Data Foundation
- Urban Institute - Tech & Data Initiatives
- Partnership for Public Service - Tech & Innovation



INNOVATION & INTERDISCIPLINARY TECH

- New America - Open Technology Institute
- Open Gov Hub
- Brookings - Tech Innovation
- Wilson Center - Science & Tech Innovation

CMU/WSP

Computer Science Students

1. LAUNCH YOUR CAREER & BUILD YOUR RESUME

With CMU/WSP, computer science students can apply technical skills in government agencies, research organizations, and innovation hubs, shaping the future of technology. Check out potential organizations where you could make an impact.

- Federal Trade Commission – Technology Research & Investigation
- NASA – Technology and Policy Offices
- United States Digital Services (USDS)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – Cybersecurity Division
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace – Technology & International Affairs
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- MITRE
- DC Innovation Hub (DC iHub)
- Open Gov Hub

2. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & NETWORKING

CMU/WSP focuses on professional development both before the semester in DC and throughout the experience. Students learn how to prepare for the professional world and how to develop their professional identities. Through our “Tomorrow’s Professionals” program, students learn the process for crafting resumes and cover letters, and interviewing. Additionally, students have access to a wide range of professional development opportunities and events, including:

- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency – While a federal agency, they host public events and briefings that students can attend
- DC Tech Meetup – The largest tech community in DC, which hosts monthly demo nights and networking events
- Women in Technology (WIT) DC Chapter – Provides mentorship, events, and networking for women in computing and engineering fields
- Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT) – Organizes events, including interactive roundtables and public forums that help students network and engage with the tech policy community in DC
- Washington Program Consortium – Cross-campus collaboration offering joint programming and networking

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