

How THIS works

Imagine working side by side with some of Pennsylvania's most important public policy makers and getting a full semester's worth of credits for it. THIS has happened for hundreds of college students since 1989.

The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) is a program sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).



THIS is open to students from any major from any of the 14 PASSHE universities. Student participants get the opportunity to work alongside officials at all levels of state government,

from the Office of the Governor to various boards, agencies and commissions.

THIS provides students with enriching academic experiences that teach them the dynamics of state government and public policy development, build their resumes through on-the-job professional development and expand their portfolios through speech and report writing, legislative research and analysis and program design and evaluation. THIS interns provide a fresh perspective to policy makers as well.



Dr. Glenn Geiser-Getz (Resident Faculty Director) and the fall 2009 THIS interns

What THIS provides

THIS brings a comprehensive academic approach to the internship experience. The program is coordinated by a resident faculty director who, in addition to supervising the work of the interns in the state capitol, teaches a rigorous weekly public policy seminar to the interns. Finally, all students complete a thesis-length research project. THIS interns ultimately earn 15 credits for a semester of work (nine credits for the internship, three credits for the weekly seminar and three credits for the research project).

www.passhe.edu/this

What THIS costs

Students in THIS are responsible for tuition and fees as in any normal semester. However, each intern earns a \$6,500 stipend from PASSHE to cover his or her living expenses.

What THIS requires

Any student from a PASSHE university in any major is eligible to apply. Student applicants must have earned at least 45 undergraduate credits and have received a minimum 3.0 GPA. Prospective interns must also complete an application.

Placements

The following are examples of offices and agencies in which THIS interns have been placed:

- Center for Rural Pennsylvania
- Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Department of Education
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Public Welfare
- Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs
- Governor's Budget Office
- Governor's Policy Office
- Legislative Office for Research Liaison
- Office of the Attorney General
- Office of the First Lady
- Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

How to apply

A faculty Campus Coordinator at each PASSHE university selects students from that campus to serve as THIS interns. Students provide a completed application, a current transcript, letter(s) of recommendation, a resume and a writing sample.

www.passhe.edu/this

PASSHE universities

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
California University of Pennsylvania
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Mansfield University of Pennsylvania
Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
West Chester University of Pennsylvania

More information

Complete details regarding the application and a current list of Campus Coordinators is available online at www.passhe.edu/this. Students also may call 717-720-4089 for more information.

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THE HARRISBURG INTERNSHIP SEMESTER (THIS)



**Opening doors
for college students
in partnership with
state government**

*Sponsored by the Pennsylvania State
System of Higher Education*

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