



NEXTGEN SERVICE SUMMER POLICY ACADEMY: INFORMATION SESSION



SUMMER POLICY ACADEMY

Program Overview

The NextGen Service Summer Policy Academy (SPA) is a three-week program and professional development experience designed to empower undergraduate juniors to explore meaningful and impactful careers in public service.

What You'll Gain:

1. Insights into public service careers
2. An expansive network
3. Policy knowledge and skills
4. A broader civic perspective
5. Financial support (\$1,000 stipend)
6. Ongoing career support

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What to Expect

Washington, DC Immersion, June 14 - 20

- Networking and mentorship opportunities with public service leaders and changemakers
- Personal reflection sessions to identify personal strengths and clarify career goals
- Site visits to national organizations and governmental agencies
- Exclusive visits to famous historical sites, such as the U.S. Capitol building and Smithsonian museums

Residential Study at a Host School, June 21 - July 3

- Develop practical policy analysis skills
- Engage in hands-on learning through case studies and simulations
- Collaborate with peers on real-world policy challenges
- Participate in field experiences and site visits
- Explore the campuses local area

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Summer 2025 Reflections



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University of California-Berkeley: Democracy and Law Policy

Students will explore the conditions for democracy and the actions that governments can take to protect, promote, and deliver on the promise of democracy for human flourishing. Specific areas of democracy policy include issues or representation and identity justice, voting and elections, speech and expression, citizenship, effective governance and administration, and institutional trust.



Berkeley
Public Policy
The Goldman School



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University of Minnesota: Global Policy

With an emphasis on roleplay and simulation, students will take a hands-on approach in grappling with some of the world's most pressing transnational challenges. Specific areas of focus may include conflict, access to water, human rights, and sustainable development.



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University of Washington: Social Policy

Students will be exposed to an array of nonprofit and government agencies involved in the creation and implementation of social policies that respond to pressing societal and economic issues. Specific issues of social policy include addressing poverty and inequality, social welfare programs, education policy, and criminal justice.



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Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must be:

- A current Junior with an expected graduation date between December 2026 and August 2027
- In good academic standing (i.e., “on track” to graduate by 2027)
- U.S. Citizens or lawful permanent residents

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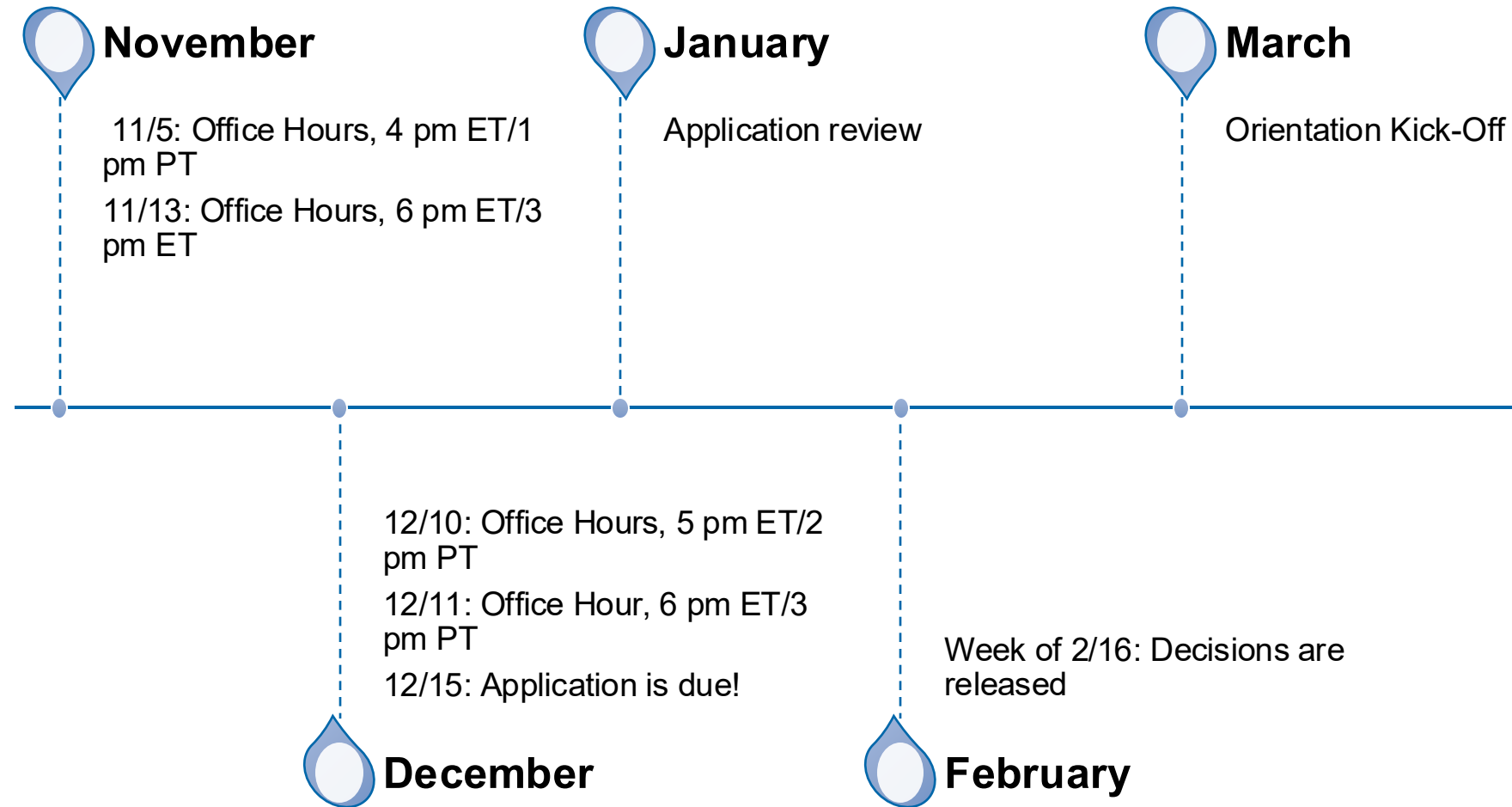
Application Criteria

- Student Information
 - Contact details, birth date, educational background, etc.
- Resume
- Transcript(s)
- Summer Plans
- Preferred Host School
- Letter of Recommendation
- Essay Prompts
 - *Why are you interested in participating in the NextGen Service Summer Policy Academy? What are you hoping to learn or gain from the experience? (500-word limit)*
 - *What are your career aspirations, and how have your background, values, or lived experiences influenced your goals? (500-word limit)*

APPLICATION CLOSES DECEMBER 15, 2025 @ 11:59 PM PT

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Timeline



Contact Information

Network Email

nextgen@volckeralliance.org

Learn more here:



Apply to SPA here:

