

Jacob Gerling

CLIP Statement of Interest

10/21/2025

My name is Jacob Gerling, and I am currently a Junior at the University of Missouri-Columbia, working toward my Political Science and Communication degree. As a native of Jefferson City, Missouri, state government has been around me my entire life, and I have always wanted to serve in some way within it. The CLIP Internship gives me this opportunity, by letting me see first hand what it is like to serve in a state office, and see how the legislative process works from the beginning of session to the very end.

In this internship I hope to build upon already gained experience from previous internships. Having worked on Governor Kehoe's governor campaign and in Congressman Bob Onder's district office, I have gained knowledge in constituent services, political strategy, and bill research. With this internship, I hope to gain experience in how the legislative process unfolds. From policy development, to changes in committee, debate on the floor, to finally being passed, I want to learn the hurdles it takes to get legislation to the Governor's desk.

This internship ties to my career goals, as I want to serve within government, particularly in the capacity of policy development and analysis. This internship provides me that opportunity to learn alongside real legislators and policy professionals to see how legislation is crafted, tracked, debated, and compromised on in order to deliver a finished product to the governor.

With this internship, I hope to further develop connections and relationships with people in this industry, so that when my education is complete I can transition to a career within the

public service sector, to work on future policy to help the citizens of Missouri and the United States.