

I am seeking this internship in the state government for a few reasons. First, I find the government very interesting. Through this internship, I hope to learn about future opportunities and career paths I can go down after I earn my BAs in Political Science and Public Administration. Secondly, I want to further my understanding in how the state government works. As of now, I have experience in local government with a previous internship with the City of Independence. To solidify what I want to do as a career in the future, I think it will be beneficial to learn more about the ins and outs of state government to see if I have a future in that. Lastly, I want to build my network so I can have help after college. If I start networking myself and build my future career now, I hope to find some sort of work in any level of government in the littlest amount of time possible.

As of now, I only have experience with local government. I got to work under the former City Manager of Independence, Zach Walker, for the first semester of my senior year and the Chief of Emergency Operations of Independence, Sam Morris, my second semester of senior year. While interning for the City of Independence, I met a lot of City employees and got to see the different kinds of work each department does. During my time with Emergency Management, I got to revamp the City's emergency mass-messaging system, removing inactive users and added key messages in preparation for the 2026 FIFA World Cup in Kansas City. Their hospitality allowed me to see a side of government I had very little knowledge on before I started my internship there.

If I am accepted into this program, I will use this opportunity to help build my future career and learn more about what the state government does for me and my fellow Missourians. I hope that my interest in the government, experience in local government and my motivation to expand my knowledge on state government will allow me to have an internship with the state.