

Regan Martinez

CLIP Personal Statement

400 Circus Ave Apt #101
Columbia, MO 65201

(816) 812-1858
Regan.ashley.martinez@outlook.com

Dear Civic Leaders Internship Program Selection Committee,

I am an economics and music major at the University of Missouri – Columbia and I am eager to apply for the Civic Leaders Internship Program! Growing up in Jackson County and living and working in downtown Columbia has given me a firsthand account on how public policy shapes communities, from education to economic opportunity. This internship represents a unique opportunity to combine my academic background, professional experience, and commitment to public service to better understand and contribute to state-level policymaking.

As a Compliance and Customer Service Associate at Green Releaf Dispensary, I navigate a highly regulated environment, ensuring adherence to Missouri laws, maintain detailed records, and provide professional guidance to clients. In this role, I also see the direct effects of policy on members of my community who are struggling financially, which has strengthened my interest in equitable economic and social policy. These experiences have increased my understanding of state regulations and improved my ability to communicate complex information clearly.

My leadership experience as Head Lifeguard at West Broadway Swim Club and Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation prepared me to manage teams, resolve conflicts, and respond effectively in high-pressure situations. I coordinated daily operations at a large municipal water park, supervised staff, and enforced safety protocols. This helped me in developing skills directly transferable to a fast-paced, detail-oriented work environment such as the work done in government offices.

Beyond academics and professional experience, I am an active member of the Sankofa Chorale, which is a community choir through the university that performs music reflecting the black experience. Additionally, I have participated in Marching Mizzou for four years! Both experiences have strengthened my teamwork, discipline, and commitment to equity and cultural awareness.

As an economics student, I am particularly interested in how fiscal policy and resource allocation intersect with community equity. An internship in a representative's office or state department would allow me to apply analytical skills to real-world challenges, such as budget assessment, equitable resource distribution, and evaluation of legislation affecting diverse populations. My goal is to understand system inequalities and contribute to policies that promote fairness, efficiency, and sustainable development across Missouri communities.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to the Civic Leaders Internship Program while learning from experienced policymakers and staff. This experience would deepen my understanding of state governance and allow me to apply my skills in leadership, compliance, and economic analysis in meaningful ways that support the public good.

Thank you for considering my application!

Sincerely,
Regan Martinez