As a Political Science major with a Pre-Law focus at the University of Missouri, I'm applying for the Civic Leaders Internship Program (CLIP) because I want to gain real experience in the legal and political world, not just learn about it from textbooks. I've always been curious about how laws are made and how government decisions affect people's everyday lives, and I want to be part of that process.

I came to the U.S. from Mongolia to study, and that experience completely changed how I see the world. Living between cultures has taught me to look at problems from different perspectives, and it's also made me more open-minded and adaptable. I speak English, Russian, and some Japanese, which helps me connect with different kinds of people and understand how communication shapes relationships and decisions.

I've also volunteered as an English teacher and worked on community projects, which helped me realize how much I enjoy working with people and contributing to something bigger than myself. These experiences taught me patience, empathy, and how to communicate clearly, and skills that I know will help me in any professional environment, especially in law or government.

I'm interested in this internship because I want to see how state offices function from the inside, how people in government think, make choices, and handle challenges. I believe that actually being in Jefferson City, surrounded by people who are shaping policy and law, will give me a better understanding of how leadership and teamwork come together to make change happen.

In the future, I hope to become a lawyer and use my background to make a difference both in the U.S. and internationally. I see this internship as a chance to take what I've learned so far and apply it in the real world to grow, to learn from others, and to find where I fit in the world of law and public service.