

## DRAFT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (June-July)

- 1st Week** - Orientation/Introduction to the City
  - Visits/Meetings with Representatives from The Executive and Judicial Branch (The White House, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Trade Representative, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Supreme Court); Legislative Branch; Policy Influencers (Think Tanks, Journalists, Lobbyists, and Businesses)
- 2nd Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- 3rd Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- 4th Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- 5th Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- July 4th** - American BBQ and Fireworks on the National Mall
- 6th Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- 7th Week** - CONGRESS/GOVERNMENT IN ACTION: Shadowing/Internship
- 8th Week** - Internship at the Royal Thai Embassy's Consular Section
  - Program Wrap-Up/Evaluation
  - Certificate Presentation at the Embassy



*"This program made it possible to intern for Congressman Bill Foster, which was an experience that cannot be mimicked in any way. My experience from working in the office showed me how things work in Washington, how daily matters are carried out in the House of Representatives, and it has opened my eyes to the many opportunities that circulate each day around Capitol Hill."* **Balin Kird-in from Florida**

*"I have had one of the best experiences I have ever encountered in my life, which was made possible by the Thai-American National Internship Program and The Royal Thai Embassy in cooperation with the US-Asia Institute. My time here in Washington D.C. has gained me numerous valuable skill sets both life-wise and work-wise. Not only did I get to learn so many things, but I also got to have fun! I have met many inspiring beings, and I was glad to have made valuable friendships."* **Cherie La Mere from Colorado**

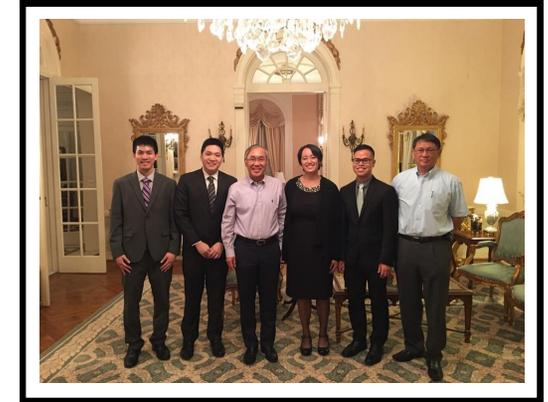


*"The Thai-American Internship Program was one of the best experiences I've ever had. At the start of this program, I had already graduated college, and was unsure of what my next steps were. This internship allowed me to see different sides of the field of the government and politics and where I could find myself in it."* **Grace Namchaitotsaphon from Florida**

*"The most memorable moment was when I met with Senator Tammy Duckworth. I was able to talk to her about her interest in Southeast Asian public health and was inspired at her works both domestically and internationally."* **Nattacha Munakata from Virginia**



## Thai American National Internship Program (TANIP)



***The Thai American National Internship*** is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for Thai American students and young graduates to gain a firsthand look at the American government and political system in Washington D.C., and to reflect on the role they, as future leaders, might play in enhancing the voice of the Thai community in their states.



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<http://thaiembdc.org/TANIP>

# THAI AMERICAN NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## An Inside Look at U.S. Policymaking in Washington, D.C.



In 2015, the Royal Thai Embassy initiated a program to provide Thai-American youths with the opportunity to intern/shadow in various offices at the **national** level.

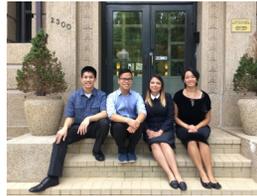
This experience helps participants develop a stronger understanding of how government operates by experiencing it from an insider's perspective. The program prepares young leaders to participate in the political, legislative and policy arenas, and is dedicated to developing the skills of individuals who are interested in public service. Not only is this an invaluable professional experience, but it also benefits the Thai community by increasing the interest of Thais in American politics.

Sponsored by the Royal Thai Embassy, in consultation with the U.S.-Asia Institute, the program is organized annually to provide **the opportunity for Thai American students and young graduates to come to Washington D.C. from June to July (8 weeks) to get hands-on experience in the policymaking process.**

During the first week orientation, participants would get an inside look at how government works, hearing from Washington policymakers and influencers who play key roles in the American political system. Following the orientation, the students



would visit key institutions across Washington, including the Capitol, Federal agencies, the Supreme Court, think tanks, associations and businesses. They would attend congressional and judicial proceedings, briefings on topics of interest, and meet many key participants, policy makers and influencers (including lawmakers, Administration officials, lobbyists, educators, journalists and others). On weekends, they would explore the city and interact with other Americans and foreign nationals in a wide range of social settings.



Participants will primarily be paired with congressional office and other elected officials from their home district, unless otherwise requested. Due to the highly competitive nature of these positions, placement with a congressional office is not guaranteed. In these instances, participants will be paired with local think tanks, NGOs and business organizations. While participants' background and interests may not be in politics, they are encouraged to intern and make connections with elected officials, their staff and key influencers in Washington. This will not only help facilitate understanding of how government works, but also equip participants with insights on how to make the concerns of those in their respective Thai community heard at the national level. The students will also spend one week at the Royal Thai Embassy, gaining a hands-on experience in a consular setting.

Participants may be asked to attend briefings on Thailand and other topics of interest vis-à-vis the bilateral and regional relationship with the United States. Though participants are not experts on the issue, they are in a unique position of having ancestral ties to Thailand and a better understanding of cultural nuances in the relationship. They will also be asked to write a short analysis on the experience. We firmly believe that those chosen for the program have a role to play in informing U.S. policymakers and others about Thailand and its areas of interest.

**Acceptance:** Thai-American students and young graduates who meet the qualifications will be accepted for this program. Participants are responsible for all expenses related to the program, which include travel to Washington D.C. and return to home location, housing, food, and ground transportation throughout the program. All participants must, after acceptance into the program, show proof of health insurance. **Scholarships may be available to defray part of the costs of the program with amount to be determined.**

### Requirements:

#### 1. Candidate qualifications

- Age 18-25 years old
- An undergraduate degree OR enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student in good academic standing
- U.S. citizenship
- Leadership ability and good interpersonal skills
- Record of community service

#### 2. Selection and timeframe

**The application process for this program will begin in November.** The announcement will be posted on the Royal Thai Embassy's website. Candidates can access the online application by visiting <http://thaiembdc.org/TANIP>

#### Required documents:

The online application form will ask for

- Resume
- Statement of Intent and Impact
- A copy of most recent transcript
- A copy of ID, passport or other official document as proof of U.S. citizenship
- A copy of parent's ID, passport or any official document as proof of Thai citizenship of the candidate's parent (s)
- A copy of voter registration card
- An academic letter of recommendation
- A letter of recommendation from a community service organization, preferably a Thai American organization (Optional)

#### Selection process:

- 1) A selection committee comprised of qualified individuals from the U.S.-Asia Institute and the Royal Thai Embassy will consider the applications. Qualified candidates will be contacted directly for a phone or video conference interview.
- 2) Final candidates will be contacted directly in January and the results will be announced publicly on the Royal Thai Embassy's website.

#### For questions, contact:

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Or

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