

This could be you!

...with a paid summer internship



NEW JERSEY PRESS FOUNDATION

2012 Summer Internship Program



APPLICATION

- Open to freshmen, sophomores and juniors attending New Jersey colleges and to New Jersey residents attending other U.S. colleges.
- Internships will be at New Jersey daily and weekly newspapers during the summer of 2012.
- Minimum salary is \$400 a week for eight weeks.
- Deadline Applications must be postmarked no later than December 30, 2011.

NJPF

NEW JERSEY PRESS FOUNDATION
840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 305
West Trenton, NJ 08628-1019
(609) 406-0600 • www.njpressfoundation.org

A Program for Your Professional Future

New Jersey Press Foundation, the charitable arm of New Jersey Press Association, will award several eight-week paid internships at NJPA-member newspapers for the summer of 2012.

Your Internship

Your paid internship will last eight weeks and must be served at a newspaper that is a member of the New Jersey Press Association.

On the application form (Pages 3 & 4 of this flier) you are asked to list three New Jersey newspapers—including at least one weekly newspaper—at which you would prefer to serve your internship (a list of New Jersey newspapers is posted on the NJPA website, www.njpa.org).

While NJPF cannot guarantee you will work at a newspaper of your choice, every effort will be made to respect your preferences and locate an internship near your home. The Foundation selection committee will make the final decision on where your internship will be located.

All internships are subject to approval by the newspaper's publisher and/or editor. Assignments will be made in January.

Salary

The internship salary you will receive through this program is approximately \$3,200 — a weekly salary of at least \$400 (before taxes) for eight weeks. Some newspapers may invite their interns to work longer than eight weeks and some papers may pay more than \$400 a week.

Eligibility

To receive a New Jersey Press Foundation internship, you must be

- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card).
- A student at a New Jersey college and/or a resident of New Jersey with a New Jersey home address (NJPF follows the residency rules New Jersey's state colleges use to determine in-state tuition costs).
- Enrolled as a full-time college freshman, sophomore or junior in 2011-2012 and planning to return to undergraduate school in the fall of 2012.

What to Expect at Your Internship

The typical internship or first job, regardless of whether it's at a daily or a weekly, involves working as a general assignment reporter, copyeditor, photographer or graphic arts/designer. That may mean covering a school board meeting one night and taking a photo at a traffic accident the next afternoon.

It's no secret that the depth of experience an intern will receive varies from paper to paper and that dailies give students somewhat different experiences than weeklies offer. Here are some examples

- Daily newspapers often assign interns to a "beat" or a specialized topic in addition to giving them general assignments. Also, many large dailies ask their interns to help veteran reporters gather background information for articles. Some papers hire interns to work exclusively as copy editors, photographers or graphic artists.
- Interns at large papers, especially dailies, will have their journalistic work evaluated by several people before it appears in print.
- Weeklies and small dailies depend heavily on their interns to produce a large quantity of articles, photos or graphics on every topic. It isn't unusual for an intern at a weekly to receive bylines immediately after starting to work and to prepare dozens of articles, photos or graphics in every issue.
- In addition to reporting and writing news and feature articles, interns at small dailies and weeklies may be asked to take photos to accompany their articles, do some copy editing or to help with laying out the paper.

As with any other company or any other industry, the decision about working for a weekly or a daily sometimes boils down to a personal preference of whether to be a "big fish in a small pond" or a "small fish in a big pond."

NJPF believes that the quality of the internship depends on the newspaper's commitment to help prepare students for newspaper careers.

Every newspaper assigned one of our interns — regardless of whether it's a daily or a weekly — has set as a priority the importance of teaching students how to become outstanding journalists.

NEW JERSEY PRESS FOUNDATION
2012 Summer Internship Program

Application deadline — December 30, 2011

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Student ID number (optional) _____

College or University _____

Personal College Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Personal College Phone _____ Preferred E-mail _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

PREFERRED SITE OF INTERNSHIP

List three New Jersey newspapers, including at least one weekly newspaper, where you would prefer to serve your internship. For a list of NJPA-member newspapers, go to www.njpa.org and click on "NJPA Members". Then click on "Alphabetical Listing". We urge you to read "What to Expect at Your Internship" on Page 2, before you select your three newspapers.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

In the fall term of 2012, I will be a sophomore junior senior

Year and month of my graduation (expected) _____

The first date I am available to start an internship is _____

My undergraduate college major (List only fields in which you will complete at least nine courses before receiving your degree)

Journalism/mass communication majors, please indicate emphasis News-Editorial Other _____

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

I have never have worked full-time (35 hours a week) as a reporter or editor for more than three months for a professional newspaper. If you have, list the newspaper and your dates of employment.

High school newspaper experience (attach additional sheets, as necessary)

Staff positions held _____ Honors received _____

College newspaper experience (attach additional sheets, as necessary)

Staff positions held _____ Honors received _____

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE continued from previous page

Other newspaper experience (attach additional sheets, as necessary)

Staff positions held _____ Honors received _____

Other newspaper experience (attach additional sheets, as necessary)

STATEMENT AND PERMISSION

I have read all of the information about the New Jersey Press Foundation's Summer Internship Program. If accepted into the program, I agree to complete the eight-week internship assigned to me unless I become medically disabled. All of the information I have given on this application and the accompanying materials is true. If selected, I will provide NJPF with my college student ID number.

I agree that the New Jersey Press Foundation may use my statements and likeness in its promotional literature, both in print and on the Internet. The Foundation has my permission to distribute this application form and all of its parts and attachments to newspapers and news services.

Signed _____ Date _____

CHECKLIST TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE APPLICATION

Please photocopy and/or save on your computer every part of the application you send to New Jersey Press Foundation. Carefully read the information below and submit all parts of the application.

- Autobiographical sketch (500 words or less) describing your journalistic skills and interests that NJPF could forward to a newspaper recruiter looking for a summer intern. This "essay" must contain a statement of your interest in a newspaper career.
- Your résumé.
- Transcript or list of your academic course grades received from all colleges or universities you have attended, including courses taken in the fall term of 2011. Freshmen, submit a high school transcript and a list of college courses currently taking. Unofficial transcripts or typed lists of courses and grades are OK; students who are selected as interns will be required to send official transcripts.
- Two letters of recommendation written by faculty member (college or high school), college newspaper adviser, professional newspaper editor, reporter, or others who have evaluated/critiqued your writing that appeared in any newspaper (but not another student or family member). Both people who write letters should focus their observation of your writing and/or editing skills.
- Three samples of your work (preferably published in a newspaper), neatly pasted or photocopied on 8½ x 11 sheets. Please do not fold.
- Statement of special financial or family circumstances, if appropriate.

Send your application and all other documents, postmarked no later than **December 30, 2011**.

Internship Awards Committee
New Jersey Press Foundation
840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 305
West Trenton, NJ 08628-1019