

Graduate Engagement Opportunities (GEO) Community Practicum Information for Host Organizations

The Graduate Engagement Opportunities (GEO) Community Practicum Program is designed for PhD students who are interested in learning about community organizations, exploring careers outside of the academy, and/or developing mutually beneficial research partnerships. By interning 10-20 hours per week for an academic quarter at Chicago-area institutions, graduate students will be able to apply their expertise to the civic sphere, all while learning through hands-on, real world practice. Your organization will benefit from the energy and ideas of highly motivated graduate students from a world-renowned university who can assist with existing work or develop new projects.

To be a host organization we ask you to provide:

- Training or orientation
- Substantive and meaningful work that includes skills such as analytic thinking, writing, public engagement and/or data analysis
- Regular supervision
- Evaluation of the student's performance at the end of the practicum (we will distribute an easy-to-complete form at the end of the program)
- **Due to COVID-19, Spring 2021 internships may need to be conducted remotely.**

Additionally, we suggest that organizations try to involve students in staff and client meetings and to introduce them to as many people in the organization as possible. This is the student's opportunity to learn the field, roles, and key players of your organization.

Through this academic practicum program, graduate students are required to work 10-20 hours a week. They attend a three-hour seminar on campus each week where they study civic engagement and public scholarship. Graduate students will continue to receive their Northwestern stipend and tuition scholarship while participating in this program, so host organizations should not pay students. However, we do ask you to be helpful with travel and other expenses associated with the internship outside of tuition.

If you are interested in becoming a host institution, please contact Ruth Curry at ruth.martin@northwestern.edu. More information about GEO can be found at: www.engage.northwestern.edu/geo

Students accepted to our quarterly program will review position descriptions and you, the respective employer, will be sent the resumes of all students who express interest. You review the resumes, decide whom you want to interview, and make your decisions and internship offers. It is an open and competitive process for you and for students.

Program Dates: Spring Quarter 2021: March 30 – June 5, 2021

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