



LESC Internship

Deadline to apply: April 27, 2026
For submission or questions contact:
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2026 Paid Summer LESL Internship Program

The Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) examines a wide range of education issues, both fiscal and programmatic, that affect the achievement and well-being of prekindergarten, elementary, and secondary students and teachers in New Mexico. LESL is an inclusive workplace committed to providing a welcoming environment for everyone where all voices are heard and valued.

The LESL internship will provide students with professional work experience and a unique opportunity to interact with elected officials. Interns will learn more about the legislative process and current education issues and will have the chance to work on research projects alongside LESL policy analysts.

What does the internship entail?

Interns will be assigned a mentor policy analyst and together they will determine internship tasks that build on individual strengths, intern interests, and project needs. Tasks could include conducting background research, writing briefs, contacting school districts, or conducting quantitative or qualitative analyses. LESL aims to provide interns with a meaningful experience that helps prepare students for a career in New Mexico public policy or schools.

Who is eligible?

All undergraduate and graduate students interested in education policy and the legislative process are welcome to apply, regardless of major or year in school. Consideration will also be given to incoming high school seniors and recent college graduates.

When does the internship begin and end?

Internships will take place in person for 6-8 weeks between June 1, 2026, and October 2, 2026. There is some flexibility to accommodate other obligations and time commitments interns may have. If the suggested dates or length of internship are a concern, please reach out to discuss your specific situation.

Is this a paid internship?

LESL is committed to both providing meaningful work experience as well as compensating interns for their important contributions. Earnings will be determined based on hours worked, and finalists will receive additional information about the offered rate.

Where will the intern work?

The intern will report to our Santa Fe office at the New Mexico State Capitol. To ensure LESC is able to provide the best experience possible, only candidates who can commit to working in-person will be considered.

Are there travel commitments?

Once a month, the LESC members meet to hear from community members, discuss education issues, and consider policies for the next legislative session. These committee meetings happen around the state and are a great opportunity to interact with lawmakers and see first-hand how policies are created. These meetings typically require 3-4 days of travel, with approved food and lodging expenses covered and transportation provided by staff. Please note most expenses are reimbursed after travel, with individuals covering upfront costs during meetings. Arrangements can be made to support upfront travel costs for individuals requiring financial assistance.

How do I apply?

Complete an online application [HERE](#).

The online application will prompt you to upload:

- An unofficial transcript (LESC staff use transcripts to verify enrollment, not evaluate academic performance);
- A resume; and
- A writing sample.

Questions or concerns?

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