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LEAP Justice Reform Internship -- Summer 2022

Compensation: \$13 / hour

Location: Remote Work

Hours: 30-40 hours per week for 8-12 weeks

Applications Due: Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 12:00 Noon ET / 9:00 am PT

Description

The [Law Enforcement Action Partnership \(LEAP\)](#) is a nonprofit organization of more than 250 police, judges, prosecutors, and sheriffs who speak from firsthand experience in support of ground-breaking criminal justice and drug policy reforms. Our speakers are crucial to passing these reforms because their voices can persuade people who otherwise would see the reforms as a threat to public safety. Our speakers work on policy change from decriminalizing drug possession and legalizing marijuana to ending cash bail, holding police accountable for misconduct, addressing racial disparities, and promoting restorative justice.

LEAP also works with individual cities to design and implement a [community responder model](#) – if someone calls 911 about a low-risk situation that doesn't need a police officer response, the city should be able to send a trained community responder team instead.

LEAP is seeking an intern to report to the Program Department. The intern would help research and design community responder models, ghost-write OpEds for speakers (see for example [this one](#)), assemble briefs on criminal justice issues and promising solutions, and find potential law enforcement recruits and partner organizations.

This internship, as with our entire organization, is remote -- we communicate by video conference (in general, not just due to COVID-19). The intern could work from anywhere. We would "meet" frequently over the phone and video, and we would also arrange additional video meetings related to the intern's area of interest.

Normal summer internship hours are 30-40 hours per week for 8-12 weeks. We are flexible -- if you prefer a different schedule, please mention it in your cover letter.

Qualifications

- Strong, concise writing skills, from single-paragraph position statements to one-page policy briefs.
- Demonstrated interest in drug policy or criminal justice reform, from coursework to extracurriculars
- Demonstrated ability to conduct independent projects with minimal supervision
- LEAP is an equal opportunity employer. We value diversity in the workplace and encourage you to address your own background in your cover letter.

Application Guidelines

Please submit a **resume**, **cover letter**, and **writing sample** to Jobs@LawEnforcementAction.org with Internship Application: [Your Name] in the subject line. Please tailor your resume and cover letter to show how you meet the qualifications above. The cover letter should go more in-depth into key experiences, rather than simply repeating all the information in the resume.

Writing sample

Our ideal writing sample would be a one-page article, policy brief, or persuasive speech trying to persuade an audience on a specific policy topic related to our work. Since many students do not have such a sample available, here are a few more words of advice in choosing the right sample to send:

- Shorter is better
- Persuasive writing focused on a lay audience is more helpful than an academic essay
- Focusing on a specific issue is better than providing a general summary
- The closer the topic is to our work—policy change on a criminal justice or drug policy issue—the better
- Informality is fine, but the sample should be concise—every word should count.

We look forward to hearing from you!