

The Navajo Nation Washington Office Internship is an 8-week program designed to provide students with real-world experience in government and legislative affairs. Interns gain a comprehensive understanding of tribal sovereignty, federal trust responsibility, and the complexities of the government-to-government relationship between the Navajo Nation and the United States.

The program ultimately empowers students to become advocates for positive change, through hands-on experience, mentorship, and exposure to real issues affecting the Navajo Nation today. The structured and supportive environment fosters skill development in research, policy evaluation, and communication, creating well-rounded professionals for any field.

This year's summer program ran from June 2 to August 1, 2025, and included five students who each worked on a project that was aligned with their interests, in addition to daily tasks.





# Andrew, Arizona State University Studying Political Science ASU Capitol Scholars Program

Project: Self-Governance and Protection of Cultural Property Through Intellectual Property

"My time as a summer intern with NNWO has been one of the best experiences of my life! As a political science major, I am used to learning about politics in theory through textbooks and lectures. However, my summer with NNWO provided me a chance to experience politics in motion as I learned about the behind-the-scenes work that goes into advocating for the Navajo Nation to the federal government in the Capital."



# Aubrey, Arizona State University Studying Accounting and Computer Information Systems Navajo Nation

Project: The National Environmental Protection Act and Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

"This internship at NNWO has been a great learning experience, because I have learned in more detail the legislation and policy that are affecting my community... Every day at the office brought something new as we were pulled into meetings or conducted new areas of research. I appreciate my time here and will use this experience in future endeavors."





#### Caiden, Vassar College

Studying Political Science and Economics
The Fund for American Studies
Academic Internship Program

Project: Rethinking Agriculture on the Navajo Nation

"My internship at the Navajo Nation Washington Office over the past eight weeks far exceeded my already high expectations... Most important, I learned from professionals who fostered my growth with patience and compassion, while also opening my eyes to the complexity, urgency, and importance of tribal affairs."



# **Vy, Arizona State University**Studying Political Science ASU Capitol Scholars Program

Project: Underreported Crimes in the Navajo Nation: Challenges with Misrepresentation in Tribal and Federal Databases

"My summer internship at the Navajo Nation Washington Office has been nothing but spectacular and professionally transformative. My involvement with the federal government grew tremendously through going to meetings and hearings on Capitol Hill and preparing technical writing... These tasks are attainable because of the support from professionals in the office."





#### **Tatum, Arizona State University**

Received undergraduate degree in Global Studies; Studying for Master's in Political Science The Fund for American Studies Academic Internship Program

Project: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Data Divide and the Fight for Justice

"During my time at the Navajo Nation Washington Office I learned so much that will aid in my future career and personal development. Not only did I get the opportunity to live in Washington, D.C. and grow as an individual, but I also got to be a part of an excellent work environment... I will forever cherish the skills I acquired, the connections that I made, and the things that I learned at NNWO!"

