



BOILERS GO TO D.C.

Frequently Asked Questions

Boilers Go to D.C. - Program Overview FAQ

GENERAL PROGRAM OVERVIEWS

What's the difference between the Maymester and Summer Scholars Internship Program?

Boilers Go to D.C. (BGDC) Maymester is a 2-week study away program that offers students the opportunity to explore the intersection of political communication, government, and news media in Washington, D.C. Students will meet and interact with Washington decision-makers and visit historic sites that changed the course of our nation.

Boilers Go to D.C. Summer Scholars combines a summer internship in Washington D.C. with a 10-Week professional development and communication for-credit course, career readiness training, and alumni mentorship.

ELIGIBILITY

Do I have to be a Political Science or Communication major to be in BGDC programs?

No. BGDC Programs are open to all majors!

PROGRAM COSTS

How much is the cost of each BGDC program?

The **Maymester Program Fee** will be approximately \$3,700 and includes tuition, apartment housing, course-related activities including admission and tour fees, course materials, some meals and refreshments, and travel insurance.

The **Summer Scholars Internship Program Fee** will be approximately \$8,500 and includes housing, course-related activities including admission and tour fees, events, and course materials.

Program costs for both BGDC Programs does **NOT include transportation. Students will be responsible for arranging and paying for all travel expenses including airfare, rail, bus, taxi, or rideshare as well as purchasing food and incidentals not covered by the program fee.*

*SCHOLARSHIPS are available based on financial need.**

BGDC PROGRAM BENEFITS

What are the benefits of participating in Boilers Go to D.C. Programs?

Students who take part in these Boilers Go to D.C. programs experience the Epicenter of Innovation, Policy and Governance that is Washington D.C. beyond the surface level.

Students will:

- **Attend** exceptional networking events and take part in opportunities across career fields.
- **Meet** professionals, experts, and influential people including Boilermaker alumni through the D.C. Alumni Mentorship program as part of every BGDC program.
- **Cultivate** lasting connections with students, alumni, and D.C. professionals from Purdue as well as other universities.
- **Earn** academic credit as they participate in BGDC programs.
- **Live** in D.C. with other Purdue Students in fully furnished apartment style housing.
Housing costs are a part of the total program fee (See programs fee totals above)



BOILERS GO TO D.C. MAYMESTER

Boilers Go to D.C. Maymester Program FAQs

What is Boilers Go to D.C. Maymester? Boilers Go to D.C. Maymester is a 2-week study away program that offers students the opportunity to explore the intersection of political communication, government, news media, and non-profits in Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM DATES & COURSE INFORMATION

When is the program?

The program runs from May 15, 2025 to May 25, 2025

What is the application deadline?

Mid-February 2025; Official Deadline coming Soon!

Can I earn academic credit for participating in the program? Yes, students can earn 3.0 hours of academic credit. The course numbers and cross listings are as follows:

- COM 491, POL429, HIST 302

PROGRAM BENEFITS & CURRICULUM

What are the benefits of participating in this program? Benefits include:

- Experiencing firsthand the workings of government and media organizations
- Meeting with working professionals, influential figures and Purdue Alumni in Washington, D.C.

- Developing fundamental media literacy skills and political communication
- Gaining career readiness and mentorship opportunities

What does the program curriculum include? The curriculum includes:

- Study of political communication, government, and media
- Visits to historic sites in Washington, D.C.
- Meetings with Washington decision-makers and communicators
- Career readiness workshops
- Mentorship opportunities

What are some of the past site visits for the program? Past site visits have included:

- Capitol Hill
- The White House
- The Supreme Court
- U.S. Secret Service headquarters
- Mount Vernon
- The Library of Congress
- NBC, CNN, and C-SPAN
- The Smithsonian Museums
- The National Press Club
- The FBI
- A tour of the National Mall with C-SPAN Founder, Brian Lamb

D.C. ALUMNI MENTORSHIP

Is there a mentorship component to the program?

Yes, the program includes a D.C. Alumni mentorship component in which students are matched with a mentor from the Washington, D.C. Region. Students will meet once a month leading up to their departure for Washington D.C. and will meet their mentors in person at the Purdue D.C. Alumni Dinner.

HOUSING & PROGRAM FEES

Where will students stay during the program? Students will stay in fully furnished apartments in Washington, D.C.

What is the cost of the program? The cost of the program is approximately \$3,700. This includes tuition, apartment housing, course-related activities including admission and tour fees, course materials, some meals and refreshments, and travel insurance.

Program cost does **NOT include transportation. Students will be responsible for arranging and paying for all travel expenses including airfare, rail, bus, taxi, or rideshare as well as purchasing food and incidentals not covered by the program fee. SCHOLARSHIPS are available based on financial need.**

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION DETAILS

Who is eligible to apply? Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors who have not graduated prior to the start of the course are eligible to apply. **All majors are welcome.**

What are the admission requirements? Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.3 and be in good standing with the University. They must also submit:

- Application
- Resume
- Letter of Recommendation
- Cover letter
- Three goals for the course

How do I apply? To apply, submit all required materials by the application deadline.

Application Link Here: https://bit.ly/CCSE_BGDC



SUMMER SCHOLARS

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Boilers Go to D.C. Summer Scholars Internship Program FAQs

What is the Boilers Go to D.C. Summer Scholars Internship Program?

The Boilers Go to D.C. (BGDC) Summer Scholars Internship Program combines a summer internship in Washington D.C. with a 10-Week professional development and communication for-credit course, career readiness training, and alumni mentorship.

PROGRAM DATES

When is the program?

The program runs from May 28, 2025 to August 9, 2025

What is the application deadline?

October 31, 2024

What is the course number and title?

COM 490: Summer Internship in Washington D.C.

Are there Cross-Listings for the COM 490 course?

No. Students can work with their program advisors to make a 'Same As' request change so the BGDC Summer Scholars Internship Program can work towards their unique plans of study.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- **Gain internship experience:** Get real-world experience in your field through a summer internship in Washington D.C.
- **Earn academic credit:** Earn 3 or 6 credit hours depending on the internship workload.
- **Develop professional skills:** Boost your resume with career readiness training and Purdue D.C. alumni mentorship.
- **Live in D.C.** Conveniently located, reduced cost housing in Washington D.C. with other Purdue students is included.

FINDING INTERNSHIPS & PROGRAM RESOURCES

Do I have to find my own internship?

You are required to secure and confirm in writing an in-person, summer semester internship in Washington, D.C. by **April 15, 2025**. The CCSE will offer learning opportunities for you to gain knowledge and resources that you can use to find an internship. The Center for Career Opportunities also provides resources and assistance to help you search for an internship.

Am I required to find a paid internship?

While it is recommended that you find an internship with a salary or stipend, it is not required. Internships that are unpaid or volunteer-based and that allow you to work a minimum of 20 hours per week for the duration of the program will be accepted.

Once I apply for the program, am I automatically enrolled?

No. This course requires instructor approval. Students will have their applications reviewed and will interview the course instructor and faculty. Students invited to participate in the program after the interviews will be granted provisional, conditional enrollment in the program.

Full enrollment status will be granted by the instructor after the student has accepted and confirmed in writing an in-person internship in Washington, D.C. No later than April 15, 2025.

What is the difference between the Summer Scholars Internship Program and the D.C. Fellowships?

The D.C. Fellowship Program offers a **\$5,000 award** to students participating in the Boilers Go to D.C. Summer Scholars Internship Program. Fellows earn the award by working with a faculty mentor to complete a capstone project of their choosing related to their internship.

The D.C. Fellowships are used only for the BGDC Summer Scholars Internship Program. D.C. Fellows must be enrolled in the BGDC Summer Scholars Internship Program to be in consideration for these awards.

Below are the Departments and Schools who will be funding D.C. Fellowships for Summer 2025:

- Brian Lamb School of Communication
- Department of Political Science
- Department of History
- Department of Philosophy
- Department of Sociology
- John Martinson Honors College
- School of Languages and Cultures
- School of Interdisciplinary Studies

How many hours am I required to work each week for my internship?

You must work at least 20 hours per week at your internship for the program's duration.

Does a virtual or remote internship count?

You must secure an in-person internship in the Washington, D.C. area by March 15, 2024. Remote or virtual internships are not accepted for the program.

If I get an internship for the Spring or Fall semester, will I be able to enroll in the program?

For an internship to count for this program, it must occur and be completed in the same summer semester that you are taking the Boilers Go to D.C. Summer Scholars Internship Program

ACADEMIC CREDIT

Will I earn credit?

Yes, you can earn 3 or 6 credit hours depending on the chosen program option (internship hours).

Are there any prerequisites for the course?

No, there are no prerequisites for the course. We do offer a list of recommended courses for students provided by various schools and departments across Purdue University.

HOUSING & PROGRAM FEES

What is the program fee? There are two program fee options:

- Section 001 (includes housing): ~\$8500 (estimated)
- Section 002 (no housing): ~\$3200 (estimated)

What does the program fee cover?

The program fee covers housing (Section 001 only), course-related activities, events, and course materials.

Why are there two course options?

Some Internship positions out in Washington D.C. require students to house with the other interns in their organization. By adding the section 002 option, students who land these types of internships can still participate in the Summer Scholars Internship Program and receive its benefits. In other cases, students may already live in the D.C. Metro area and are not in need of housing reduced housing accommodations.

What is not covered by the program fee?

Program cost does **NOT** include transportation. Students will be responsible for arranging and paying for all travel expenses including airfare, rail, bus, taxi, or rideshare as well as purchasing food and incidentals not covered by the program fee.

Scholarships are available based on financial need.

Where will students stay during the program?

Students will be placed in furnished, apartment-style housing with other Purdue students (2 students per bedroom). This is only included in the program fee for Section 001.

D.C. ALUMNI MENTORSHIP

When do mentorship meetings begin and end?

The program includes a D.C. Alumni mentorship component in which students are matched with a mentor from the Washington, D.C. Region.

D.C. Alumni Mentorship meetings begin in the fall semester and end on August 9, 2025. Mentor pairs will meet each month virtually in the Fall Semester through end of May and will meet every other week Jun-Aug.

INCOMPLETION OR TERMINATION OF INTERNSHIP

What if I don't find an internship by the April 15, 2025 deadline?

If you are unable to find an internship prior to the deadline, then you will be dismissed from the program and any deposit money will be refunded.

It is recommended that you follow up with the course instructor or the Center for Career Opportunities to discuss your search strategies to determine what changes you should make in your employment searches going forward.

What happens to my grade if I terminate my internship or get fired?

If you quit or are terminated from your internship you must contact the instructor immediately. We will do our best to work with you to find another internship placement.

If another internship cannot be found within 7 calendar days from your termination, you will be required to accept a grade of "incomplete" (INC).

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION DETAILS

Who can apply?

Purdue University undergraduate sophomores, juniors, and seniors with a minimum GPA of 2.3 and in good academic standing.

If a **freshman finds an internship in Washington D.C., CCSE Managing Director, Andrea Langrish will work with that student to enroll them into the program. **

What are the application requirements?

You must submit the following by October 31, 2024:

- Application form
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation from Purdue faculty (emailed directly by the recommender)
- Cover letter outlining your reasons for interest, and three program goals

Who approves the applications?

Completed applications are reviewed and approved by the course instructor.

How do I apply? To apply, submit all required materials by the application deadline.

Application Link Here: <https://bit.ly/SScholarsApp>