

Executive Summary
Office of Assemblymember Jared Huffman
Winter 2009

The internship in the office of Assemblymember Jared Huffman is exciting for many reasons. The intern is placed in a challenging work environment, expected to communicate on the same level of competency as the intelligent staff members around them, given the opportunity to take on as many responsibilities as she desires and encouraged to learn as much as possible. Typical tasks for interns in this office are preliminary and fundamental research projects related to possible or certain legislation. This is exciting, because even as you may be doing research that seems banal and unimportant, the statistics you dig up may eventually be written into California legislative codes. The intern's position could be as challenging or not challenging as she wishes to make it. Staff members allocate tasks based on your willingness and competency. There is a minimal amount of administrative work – probably about one to two hours worth a week. However, I find it is helpful to the staff members and conducive to your likability if the intern tries to assist in the small but certainly not unimportant tasks such as picking up the phone and opening letters. Though this is an unpaid internship, the intern is essentially paid through the wealth of information she is exposed to, the knowledge and skills she will gain and the networking opportunities made available to her – not to mention, all the free food and drinks at the receptions and dinners she will attend whether through her own connections or on her legislator's behalf. Over all, this is a great internship for any scholar intern.