

Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Summer 08

As an intern of business & economic development you can expect to work more with the public policy department. A lot of the work that will be done is mostly researching material relevant to projects that the chamber is working on. Because the chamber works closely with the state and local government you are constantly doing research on multiple senators, legislatures, assemblymen, etc. Updating their contact info, knowing what committees they sit on, and what issues are important to them. The chamber then uses your research to help find appropriate delegates they can go to to introduce necessary policy changes they feel are important to local government.

Interns, regardless of what quarter you work in, will have the opportunity to take part in the chamber's business walk. This is when city officials, community members, and members of the chamber go out to a different part of Sacramento to survey businesses on what they feel is good about working in Sacramento and what the city can do to help improve the business/economic climate. Once the surveying is done it will be the responsibility of the intern to analyze, review, and summarize the data to make it presentable to the head of economic development team.

There are some days where you will have to do clerical work when you're in between projects but I thought it was a nice break because some of the projects they have you work on can be very stressful and time consuming. Don't be discouraged if they have you doing research in which the information seems impossible to find. Communicate with your supervisor and she will be happy to give direction. The supervisor is amazing and I recommend this internship to anyone who is on the fence on whether or not they would like to do policy work in the future. It's a good introduction to public policy and it's interaction with the business/economic development.