



## Policy Internship Opportunities with the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia

Exciting opportunities for current PhD / Masters students or recent graduates to gain valuable experience applying research skills to real-world policy development.

### The opportunity

The Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia (the Academy) is pleased to offer policy internship opportunities to motivated social science PhD or Masters by Research students and recent graduates looking to gain professional experience and insight into the world of public policy.

The internship will provide successful applicants with an opportunity to work together under the direct guidance and supervision of highly experienced policy professionals contributing to the development of a range of work aimed to influence social policy in Australia.

The successful interns will receive a stipend (at the rate of an APA scholarship) and opportunities to travel to or – if preferred – be based in Canberra, engage in high-level stakeholder meetings and policy briefings and to work closely with policy and subject matter experts from a range of disciplines and backgrounds.

The internships will run from 3-4 months in the second half of 2023 and can be undertaken flexibly – full-time or part-time and remotely from anywhere in Australia or based in the Academy's Canberra office.

To accept an offer of internship, successful applicants who are current HDR students will need to receive approval from their supervisor and institution to defer their studies in full or part for the duration of the internship.

At the conclusion of the internship, the successful applicants will have come away with real world experience in policy development, with new networks and contacts and with valuable experience contributing to impactful policy initiatives that will make them stand out in any graduate job field.

### What will the internships involve?

Successful interns will be involved in a range of policy projects within the Academy, including:

- **Development of a 10-year strategy for investment and support of research infrastructure in the social sciences.** This project commenced in 2022 and is working with stakeholders across government, universities and industry to build consensus and momentum around funding priorities and development opportunities for the next decade. Interns working on this project will be heavily involved in the consultation process and will be involved in drafting and finalising key details of the plan for release in late 2023.
- **Development of a report and paper on the social and economic implications of Artificial Intelligence,** drawing on social science experts to collate evidence and spell out the key social, ethical, economic and other considerations for policy makers grappling with a technological step-change for Australia's future.
- **Development of submissions to government reviews and inquiries,** covering a broad range of social policy issues such as climate change, school education, jobs and skills, aged, disability and early-childhood care and support.

## About you

This opportunity is ideal for social science PhD or Masters by research students or recent graduates who are interested in learning more about social policy development and implementation and about the interface between research and policy.

You may have decided already that you wish to pursue a career in policy (whether in government or in the business or community sector) at the research-policy interface (in knowledge translation or knowledge brokering for example) or as an informed and influential academic who has the skills and knowledge to influence and inform real world policy. Or you might not be sure what you want to do as a career and just be interested in learning more.

What you will need is good research and writing skills (what we'd consider a given as a social science HDR student) as well as the ability to think outside the box, work well with others (a fellow intern as well as a team) and to learn and be open to feedback and new ways of doing things. You'll be the kind of person who others describe as self-motivated or a self-starter and you'll pride yourself on being able to take initiative and deliver to a high standard in everything you do.

## How to apply

1. If you are a current student, seek permission and a 1-page letter of recommendation from your supervisor confirming their support for your application (you may also need to seek permission from your school/department)
2. Write 800-words in an 'opinion piece' style on a social policy or research policy issue of your choice (something that might be published in *The Conversation* or on the opinion pages of a newspaper as a guide)
3. Write a one-page cover letter outlining your interest in the opportunity and your preferences re timing (start and end dates, full- or part-time, any known leave periods) and location (remote or Canberra-based)
4. Compile a short CV (3-pages max) outlining your educational and employment background along with your main skills and achievements
5. **Send all of the above to [isabel.ceron@socialsciences.org.au](mailto:isabel.ceron@socialsciences.org.au) no later than 20 July, 2023.**

## Application Process

Applications will be assessed as they are received (so do submit your application as soon as you're ready) and shortlisted applicants will be invited for a brief video interview.

Stipend, project, 'onboarding' and any necessary travel arrangements will then be made with successful applicants for earliest commencement possible.

Note that the Academy will be able to cover one return flight and two night's accommodation in Canberra for interns based remotely, but will not be able to cover longer-term accommodation should people choose to undertake all or part of the internship in Canberra.