Weitz Fellowship: OpenSky Policy Institute

Position Description:

OpenSky Policy Institute located in Lincoln, Nebraska, seeks applications from 2015 graduates of Carleton College for a one-year visiting fellowship beginning in the summer or fall of 2015. The program is designed to offer recent graduates the opportunity to explore a career path in public policy. The fellow will work closely with staff to conduct research and analysis on state budget and tax policies to improve opportunities for Nebraskans. Under the direction of staff, the fellow will help advance effective and politically realistic policy recommendations. Some of the ways in which the fellow will do this are through the production of reports and other materials for use by policymakers, journalists, advocacy groups, and civic organizations, and through tracking and analyzing legislative proposals and the state budget. The fellow will be expected to engage with media, policymakers and their staffs, and a broad array of state and community organizations, as well as to collaborate with community-based advocates to engage the public on the impacts of public policies on their communities. During the course of the fellowship, the successful candidate will develop expertise in issues such as state budget and tax policies, health care, housing, education finance, economic development, and criminal justice.

The annual stipend for the fellowship will be $26,000 and an additional amount up to $1,500 is available for expense reimbursement to take advantage of related professional development opportunities. Benefits available. The fellowship will begin between July and September of 2015.

Overview:

OpenSky provides independent research and analysis of state fiscal and economic policy issues in Nebraska, with a focus on how these issues affect people across the state. Our mission is to improve opportunities for Nebraskans by providing impartial and precise research, analysis, education and leadership. We embrace an “all hands on deck” work environment where every team member is vital to OpenSky’s success and there is a sense of both individual ownership and shared purpose. Collaboration is not just encouraged, but critical to success.

Established in 2011, OpenSky is a state a statewide organization located in Lincoln, Nebraska, in close proximity to the State Capitol. Some travel will be required.

Qualifications:

This fellowship is open to graduating seniors from Carleton College. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, have excellent communication skills, and a strong interest in fiscal research and analysis with the intent to educate and advocate.

Application procedures:

Interested candidates should submit a resume, a cover letter describing their experience with research and analysis and interest in community engagement and state policy and the names and contact information of three references. Cover letters should be addressed to: “Dear Weitz
Program Coordinator”. Applications are due by February 13, 2015. Apply via the Carleton Career Center’s job site, The Tunnel. Any applications not submitted via the Tunnel will not be considered. Interviews will occur the week of March 1, 2015 and a final decision will be made by March 16, 2015.