



CONSERVATIVE LEGISLATIVE STUDY PROGRAM

Governor William P. Clements, Jr. Scholars

The Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute (TCCRI) is strengthening the next generation of conservative leaders through a legislative study program at the State Capitol. Interns will serve as full-time legislative assistants to members of the Texas Conservative Coalition (TCC) during the 81st Legislative Session beginning January 13, 2009. Each **Governor William P. Clements, Jr. Scholar** will be assigned to the office of a state legislator to help prepare bill research summaries, bill tracking, constituent correspondence, press releases, and other office assignments, as directed by their immediate supervisor. There will be additional opportunities to meet with conservative leaders and activists who are also working to shape public policy. Participants will receive a \$2,000 monthly stipend to assist with living expenses.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Currently enrolled as an undergraduate in an accredited four-year educational institution having completed at least 60 semester hours or enrolled in an accredited graduate program
- Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA or higher
- Demonstrate an interest in public policy and commitment to advancing conservative principles through on- and off-campus activities.
- Possess writing and analytical skills.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- All program participants will serve as full-time staff in the members' office where each participant is assigned. Program participants should expect to work beyond a typical 40-hour work week.
- Attend an orientation session and weekly meetings.
(Please note the possibility of required weekend work later in the Session)
- Participate in TCCRI-sponsored activities.

CREDIT HOURS

Each student must take responsibility to determine how their respective schools award academic credit for participation in the Conservative Legislative Study Program.

2009 TAXES

Each participant is responsible for paying taxes on income earned through the program.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

RESUME Submit a current resume which documents your academic accomplishments, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and employment history.

PERSONAL STATEMENT *(please submit on separate sheet)*

Describe your interest in public policy and the Conservative Legislative Study Program. Focus on how experience contributed to your desire to participate in public policy. *(No longer than three typed pages.)*

TWO WRITING SAMPLES

1. Draft a two-page policy memo on one of the issues below.
 - Property Taxes
 - Fiscal Policy
 - Family Policy
 - Government Spending
 - Education Reform

Please include introduction, background information, supporting arguments, recommendations and a summary from a conservative point of view. *(Paragraphs must be single spaced and should be separated by a double space with one inch margins on all sides.)*

2. Submit a secondary writing sample which may include research papers or essays written for college course credit, or publication in a campus newspaper. It should be typed, double spaced, and properly documented if the sample a research paper.

TRANSCRIPT

Provide a current official transcript in a sealed envelope

Completed applications must be postmarked by **December 15, 2008**.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Please submit in the following order *(do not staple)*:

1. Completed Application Form
2. Resume
3. Personal Statement
4. Two Writing Samples
6. Current Official Transcript

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Brent Connett
Program Director
512-474-6042
brent@txccri.org

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name _____

Current Street Address _____

Apt. # _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Mobile Phone Number _____

Email Address _____ Date of Birth _____

Permanent (Home) Street Address _____

Apt # _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Do you have a page on any social networking site?

Yes No

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Current College/University _____

Current Major _____ Minor _____

Projected Graduation Date _____ GPA _____

Hours Completed _____

Have you ever participated in an internship or worked with the Texas Legislature?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details.

Are you a Texas resident?

Yes No

If yes, who represents you in the Texas Legislature?

State Representative:

State Senator:

How did you hear about the TCCRI Conservative Legislative Study Program?

- Academic department
- Campus organization
- TCCRI website
- Senate office
- House office
- Other (please specify) _____

What three policy issues/ areas are you most interested in?

Please rank in order of interest. (This will help determine placement.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Please mark your preference between the following two options:

- I prefer to work in the Texas House of Representatives.
- I prefer to work in the Texas Senate.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or subjected to a deferred adjudication on a felony charge?

- Yes No

If your answer is “Yes” please explain in detail on a separate sheet of paper, giving the dates and nature of the offense, the name of the court, and the disposition of the case (s). A conviction may not disqualify you but a false statement will. **Finalists will be subjected to a background check.**

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify that the information submitted is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any knowing falsification in my application and supporting documents will result in my disqualification from the Conservative Legislative Study Program. I further understand that I will be required to provide legal proof of authorization to work in the U.S. I also hereby understand that according to IRS guidelines, I am responsible for paying taxes on the fellowship money I receive during my internship.

SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT

DATE

SUBMIT APPLICATION:

Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute
Conservative Legislative Study Program
Governor William P. Clements, Jr. Scholars
PO Box 2659
Austin, Texas 78768

Completed applications must be postmarked by **December 15, 2008**.

Who is Governor William P. Clements, Jr.?

Born: April 17, 1917, in Dallas

Early Career: After his family lost their farm in the Depression, Clements worked as an oil-field roughneck before attending college. The oil fields interested him more than school and he began a career in drilling. In 1947, he and two partners borrowed the money to buy two oil drilling rigs, a venture that grew into SEDCO, the world's largest offshore drilling company. Clements served as deputy U.S. secretary of defense in the Nixon and Ford administrations.

Accomplishments: Clements stunned political observers when he won an upset victory to become the state's first Republican governor since Reconstruction. He brought his business acumen to state government, insisting on sound budgeting and management policies. He also worked for tough anti-crime measures and improvements in the teaching of basics in the public schools, and made strides in improving Texas relations with Mexico.

Clements spent much of his second term dealing with the continuing prison overcrowding problem. He also was an enthusiastic supporter of the War on Drugs and other national crime prevention efforts. The recession in Texas continued to be severe, and Clements focused his attentions on job creation, economic diversification, and the recruitment of out-of-state companies. Texas was ordered by the courts to find a more equitable way of funding public schools between rich and poor districts, and considerable effort was spent trying to find a solution.

Source: Texas State Library & Archives Commission