



# CLEMENTS LEGISLATIVE STUDY PROGRAM

2023 Application

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 87th Legislative Session beginning **January 10, 2023**. Each **Governor William P. Clements, Jr. Scholar** will be assigned to the office of a state legislator and assist with bill research and tracking, constituent correspondence, press releases, and other office assignments, as directed by their immediate supervisor. Clements Scholars will also work directly with TCCRI during the legislative session. There will be additional opportunities to meet with conservative leaders and activists who are working to shape public policy. **Those accepted as Clements Scholars will receive a \$1,200 monthly stipend to assist with living expenses.**

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- 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.
- Recommended applicant GPA: 3.25 or higher.
- On- and off-campus activities should exhibit a clear commitment to advancing conservative principles, as well as an interest in public policy and state government.
- Demonstrate strong analytical and writing skills.
- Successful completion of an interview with TCCRI staff, once application has been reviewed.

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- All accepted Clements Scholars will work with a state legislator and directly with TCCRI. Given the demands of a legislative session, those accepted as Clements Scholars will very likely work more than 40-hours per week, although part-time work may be considered for a reduced stipend. Please note the possibility of required weekend work later in the legislative session.
- Those accepted as Clements Scholars will be expected to participate in activities scheduled or sponsored by TCCRI, including reading assignments and meetings with authors and notable leaders. At minimum, TCCRI will host at least one mandatory monthly lunch meeting. All Scholars must attend unless they have a written excuse from their legislative office.
- **Due to the nature of a legislative session, Clements Scholars may be expected to work during Spring Break.**

- Professional decorum and dress is expected at all times. Lapses in judgment, as determined according to TCCRI's sole discretion, can be a cause for removal from the program. You will be required to sign and adhere to a professional decorum agreement.

### **COURSE CREDIT**

Each accepted Clements Scholar must take responsibility to determine whether and how their respective school awards academic credit for participation in the Clements Legislative Study Program.

### **TAXES**

Each accepted Clements Scholar is responsible for paying taxes on the stipends awarded through the program.

### **MATERIALS TO SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION**

1. **RESUME** - Your resume should be current and up-to-date, and should document your: employment history; academic record and accomplishments; community service and involvement; and extracurricular activities. Please include references, as applicable.
2. **PERSONAL STATEMENT** (*please submit on separate sheet*) - Describe your interest in public policy and the Clements Legislative Study Program. Focus on how your experiences have contributed to your desire to participate in public policy. (*No longer than two pages, typed. Paragraphs must be single-spaced and should be separated by a double space with one inch margins on all sides*).
3. **TWO WRITING SAMPLES**
  - A. Draft a persuasive two-page policy memo on one of the issues below.
    - Economic Freedom
    - Fiscal Policy
    - Education Reform
    - Another Area of Personal Interest

Please include an introduction, background information, supporting arguments, recommendations from a conservative perspective. Note that the specific content and direction of the memo are up to you. (*No longer than two pages, typed. Paragraphs must be single-spaced and should be separated by a double space with one inch margins on all sides*).

B. 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 include proper citations if the sample was published or submitted as a research paper.

4. **TRANSCRIPT** - Provide a current official transcript in a sealed envelope.

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

1. Completed Application Form
2. Resume
3. Personal Statement
4. Two Writing Samples
5. Current Official Transcript
6. Professional decorum agreement
7. *Applications sent by traditional mail must be postmarked by **December 8, 2022**. Applications may also be sent by email to [scholars@txccri.org](mailto:scholars@txccri.org). If you email your application please have your sealed transcript mailed directly to TCCRI. Our mailing address is: Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute, Clements Legislative Study Program, PO Box 2659, Austin, Texas 78768.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Contact Gray Rutledge Phone: 512-474-6042 Email: [gray@txccri.org](mailto:gray@txccri.org)

**APPLICATION**

*PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY*

**PERSONAL**

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 or blog?

Yes No If yes, which site(s): \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, provide links and/or URLs to your profiles (you are not required to provide a password):

\_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

Current College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Current Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Projected Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Hours Completed \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Have you ever worked with the Texas Legislature, or participated in an internship with a state legislator? (circle Yes or No)

Yes No

If yes, in what capacity? 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 Clements Legislative Study Program?

- Academic department
- Campus organization
- TCCRI website
- Senate office

- House office
- Other (please specify):

\_\_\_\_\_

Which policy issues interest you the most?

**Preference: Full-time internship Part-time internship (with a reduced monthly stipend)**

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

Yes    No

If you 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.

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**SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT**

**DATE**

**SUBMIT APPLICATION:**

Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute  
Clements Legislative Study Program  
PO Box 2659  
Austin, Texas 78768

Or

Email: [scholars@txccri.org](mailto:scholars@txccri.org)

*Completed applications must be emailed or postmarked by **December 8, 2022.***

**Professional Decorum Agreement**

Working in a public capacity – as the Clements Legislative Study Program (CLSP) will have me do - requires the utmost attention to professional decorum. I understand that my actions reflect upon not only my character, but also upon the Texas Legislature, the elected official for whom I will work, his or her staff, and the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute.

I agree to conduct myself professionally at all times. In person, I will be respectful, polite, mature, and professional. My online personas (including social media accounts, blogs, and other websites) will also remain respectful, polite, mature, and professional.

I acknowledge that unprofessional conduct – in person or online – is potential cause for removal from the CLSP.

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**SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT**

**DATE**

**About Governor William P. Clements, Jr.**

*April 13, 1917 – May 29, 2011*

**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*