

FOR RELEASE

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MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

Application Deadline Extended to Jan. 26

For the third year, the U.S. Department of Education will offer summer internships to as many as 10 outstanding undergraduate and graduate students under the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholars Program. The deadline for submitting applications has been extended until Jan. 26.

The program, launched in 2002 by President Bush, helps recognize King's many contributions to promoting civil rights in America.

"President Bush and I are pleased to once again offer rising undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to see firsthand how government works from the inside, and at the same time pay tribute to Dr. King's enduring legacy of promoting education as a means to ensure equality for all."

The scholars will be assigned to the Office of the Secretary and immediate offices of the assistant secretaries of education at the department's headquarters in Washington. There, they will assist with a variety of projects related to critical education programs and initiatives, analysis, policy development, legal or other work designed to provide developmental experiences and exposure to government and public policy in a cabinet-level department.

Students designated as Martin Luther King Jr. Scholars will receive temporary federal appointments for the eight-week period of June 14-Aug. 6. The time period may be extended for an additional four weeks on a case-by-case basis. Scholars will be hired at grades GS-4, 5, 7 or 9, depending on qualifications and education level completed (corresponding pay range: \$11.32 to \$19.19 per hour).

The program is open to continuing juniors, seniors and graduate students. To be eligible, students must be enrolled on a full-time basis in an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree program at the time of their application as well as in the academic semester following the summer internship. Students from any field of study are welcome to apply.

Announcements about the positions are posted on www.ed.gov, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's USAJobs Website (www.usajobs.opm.gov), and www.studentjobs.gov.

Applicants must submit by Jan. 26:

- A resume or OF-612 application form (http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of612.pdf);
- Proof of continuing enrollment (transcript or letter from the registrar);
- Proof of academic good standing (transcript);
- Two academic references (name, title, contact information);
- Brief essay (500 words) on the link between education policy and the philosophy of Martin Luther King Jr., evident in the following quotation: "We are prone to judge success by the index of our salaries or the size of our automobiles, rather than by the quality of our service and relationship to humanity." (Stride Toward Freedom, p. 94); and
- A one-page cover letter on why the student wishes to be a Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar and what he or she has accomplished or plans to accomplish that embraces King's philosophies.

Scholars will be notified of their acceptance to the program by March 31.

For more information, visit

http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/King_Scholars_Program.jsp