

**University of Nevada, Reno**  
**Social Behavioral Research Consent Form**

**Title of Study:** Internship Quality & Access during the Covid-19 Pandemic  
**Principle Investigator:** Laura Blume (University of Nevada, Reno)  
**Co-Investigators:** Jordyn Green (University of Nevada, Reno Graduate Student)  
Sarah Sklar (Boston University Graduate Student)  
**Study Contact:** Jordyn Green ([jordyng@unr.edu](mailto:jordyng@unr.edu))  
**Study ID Number:**  
**Sponsor:**

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### **Introduction**

You are invited to participate in a research study examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Congressional internships. Before you agree to be in the study, please read this form carefully. It explains why we are doing the study, and the procedures, risks, discomforts, benefits, and precautions involved. At any time, you may ask the researcher to explain anything about the study that you do not understand. Your participation in this study is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time. If you agree but change your mind, you may quit the study at any time.

### **Why are we doing this study?**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many Congressional internships are being offered remotely, with students completing their responsibilities from home. This project will explore the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Congressional internship opportunities in two ways. First, we will explore whether the transition to remote internship opportunities decreased the disparity in access to internships. Moreover, we will explore how the transition to remote work has impacted the overall quality of the internship.

### **Why are we asking you to be in this study?**

We are asking you to be in this study because you coordinate Congressional internships.

### **How many people will be in this study?**

This survey will be shared with all Congressional internship coordinators (~535). We expect that there will be an internship coordinator for all members of the House of Representatives (435 members) and the Senate (100 members).

### **What will you be asked to do if you agree to be in the study?**

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to participate in a brief survey, which will take approximately thirty minutes to complete. You may skip any questions without negative consequences, and you may withdraw from this study at any time. You may elect to participate in follow-up communications or receive results of this study when they are disseminated.

**How long will you be in the study?**

The survey will take approximately thirty minutes of your time. If you elect to participate beyond the scope of this survey, the researchers may follow up with you on additional questions.

If anything about the study changes or if we want to use your information in a different way, we will tell you and ask you if you want to remain in the study. We will also tell you about any important new information that may affect your willingness to stay in the study. You may withdraw from the study at any time with no negative consequences by telling the researchers that you do not want to continue.

**Is there any way being in this study could be bad for you?**

If you participate in this study, you may reveal information that is sensitive related to your professional activities. However, this risk is minimized because you may elect to skip any survey questions or withdraw from the study at any time. Furthermore, any part of the survey that we will use in our analysis will be anonymized (see more below).

**Will being in this study help you in any way?**

No costs are associated with participation in this study. After completing the survey, you will be entered into a drawing for the opportunity to win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

**Who will know that you are in this study and who will have access to the information we collect about you?**

The researchers and the University of Nevada, Reno Institutional Review Board will have access to your study records.

**How will we protect your private information and the information we collect about you?**

We will treat your identity with professional standards of confidentiality and protect your private information to the extent allowed by law. We will do this by removing any identifying information from the survey. The survey will only be linked to your name through a research ID which only the researcher will know. All data will be stored on a secure network server. We will not use your name or other information that could identify you in any reports or publications that result from this study.

**Do the researchers have monetary interests tied to this study?**

The researchers and/or their families do not have monetary interests tied to this study.

**Who can you contact if you have questions about the study?**

At any time, if you have questions about this study, contact Jordyn Green at (775) 771-1532 or [jordyng@unr.edu](mailto:jordyng@unr.edu).

**Who can you contact if you want to discuss a problem or complaint about the research or ask about your rights as a research participant?**

You may discuss a problem or complaint or ask about your rights as a research participant confidentially by calling the University of Nevada, Reno Research Integrity Office at (775) 327-2368.