

Civics in Action Internship Program

America has more problems than it should tolerate, and more solutions than it uses. MASSPIRG Education Fund, along with partners in The Public Interest Network (TPIN), trains members of the next generation of social change leaders, providing the skills and experience to put solutions into effect.

Harnessing the Idealism and Passion of Young People

For decades, students have been at the forefront of change. Students rode the buses to Mississippi to register black voters during Freedom Summer in 1964. Students pushed their campuses to divest from the apartheid regime in South Africa in the 1980s, and today, they're leading the movement to divest from fossil fuels. When you look into the history of positive social change in our country, you find example after example of college students making change happen through their idealism, energy and drive.

Training Students to Make Social Change for a Lifetime

We are working to support students who want to be leaders in making social change through our **Civics in Action Internship Program**, a summer program invested in teaching the civic skills and imparting the motivation necessary to fully participate and succeed in making change in a democratic society. Research, writing, communication, organizing and advocacy, coupled with a better understanding of our political process, how government works, and the power of corporations and NGOs is valuable training for college students aiming to make a positive impact on their communities—as volunteers or professionals.

MASSPIRG Education Fund's partner organizations for our Civics in Action Internship Program:

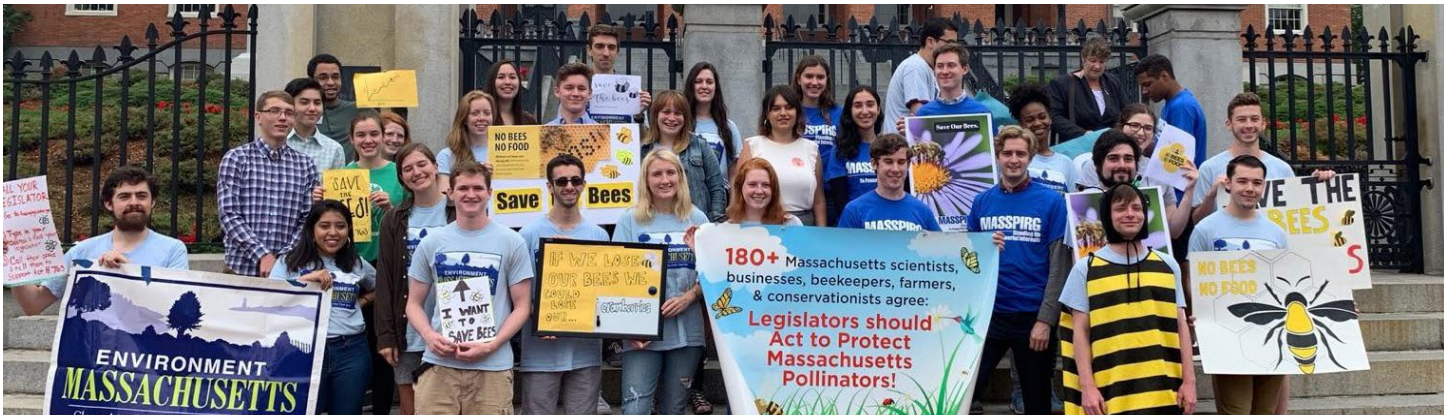
thepublicinterestnetwork



FRONTIER GROUP



The Civics in Action Internship Program combines hands-on work on a broad range of timely campaigns with weekly skills training sessions and briefings from both our staff and external partners.



Interns, volunteers and staff rallying in support of measures to protect our bees (S '19).



Interns supporting 100% renewable energy at a State House public hearing (S '19).



John Nagasawa, MASSPIRG (S '19), speaking at a State House press conference on harmful effects of youth vaping.



Dr. Sujit Suchindran, an infectious disease specialist from Lahey Hospital, briefs interns about the clinical impact of antibiotic resistance on his patients and the need for USPIRG's campaign to Stop The Overuse of Antibiotics (S '18).



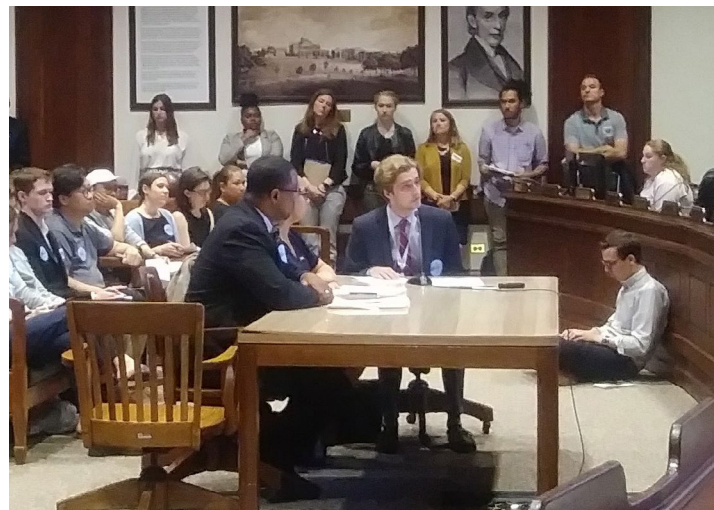
Janet Domenitz, Executive Director of MASSPIRG, running a skills training session on building coalitions (S '19).



John Allen, Environment Massachusetts (S '19), opens a panel discussion he organized at the Boston Foundation, on building toward renewable communities. Panelists included Ben Hellerstein, Director of Environment Massachusetts, Boston City Councilor Matt O'Malley, and Chris Cook, Chief Of Environment, Energy and Open Space for the City of Boston.



Ethan Brown, Toxics Action Center (S '18) talks with a local bee keeper at a "Save the Pollinators" press event.



Christopher Mykrantz, MASSPIRG (S '19), testifying before the state legislature's Joint Committee on Elections in support of election day registration, which would make it easier for people to vote. Testifying with him is Rahsaan Hall from the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.



Henry Hintermeister, Environment Massachusetts (S '18), at a Revere Beach clean-up. After graduating from Tufts University in 2019, Henry joined our staff as a Writing and Creative Associate with the Public Interest Network.



United States Senator, Ed Markey (MA), spoke to our interns and staff on the importance of getting involved in efforts to protect the environment (S '17).

In the summer of 2016, in collaboration with our Public Interest Network partner organizations, and with generous support from the Nord Family Foundation, The Paul & Edith Babson Foundation, and the Consumer Federation of America, MASSPIRG Education Fund expanded and enriched our internship program. Over the last four summers, 86 college and graduate school interns have worked on more than 30 campaigns for our network of public interest groups.

To apply, contact Deirdre Cummings, DCummings@masspirg.org.

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