

2024 Jeffrey L. Pressman Awards
Deadline for Submission: February 16, 2024
Submit application to Katherine Hoss, hoss@mit.edu

The Department of Political Science announces the Summer 2024 Jeffrey L. Pressman Awards for research, travel or internship in US government, politics, law or education. All members of MIT undergraduate classes 2025, 2026, and 2027 are eligible to apply.

Several stipends (maximum \$7000 each) will be awarded to MIT undergraduates for use during the summer to undertake a special project that focuses on some legal, political, institutional or policy issue *or* an internship that is related to US government, politics, or policy.

Application guidelines for research or special project applicants:

Proposal (3-5 Pages)

1. Completed application form, including the title of your proposed project.
2. In an essay of 750 words, describe your project.
 - a. What is your topic and research question?
 - b. Why are you interested in this topic?
 - c. What is your background in this area?
 - d. How do you propose to complete the research?
 - e. What will this project contribute to your education?
 - f. What will you contribute to the field by completing this research?
2. Include a preliminary budget
3. Letter of recommendation from 1 MIT faculty member (or UROP supervisor or senior administrator at MIT).
4. A current resume.
5. Unofficial transcript.

Application guidelines for internship applicants:

Proposal (3-5 Pages)

1. Completed application form, including the type of internship you seek.
2. In an essay of 750 words, please describe an issue or policy related to American government, law, or education of interest to you (it is preferable but not required that your topic be related to the internship you wish to pursue). What are the origins of this issue and who are the major stakeholders? What are the implications of various possible resolutions of the issue?
3. In a paragraph of 150 words, describe how an internship funded by a Jeffrey L. Pressman Award would develop and advance your educational and/or career goals.

4. Letter of recommendation (1) from an MIT faculty member or similar.
5. Current resume.
6. Unofficial transcript.
7. Internship offer letter due to Katherine Hoss (hoss@mit.edu) by May 1 2024 to be eligible for funds

Recent Pressman Award winners

Summer 2023

Jennifer Ai

Internship at Recidiviz Data Analysis

Lily Chen

Research Project: "Natural Language Processing for Political Polarization"

Paul Irvine

Internship at the Office of CA Governor Gavin Newsom

Liberty Ladd

Internship at the U.S. Department of Defense

Aidan Render-Katolic

Internship at the Center for Strategic and International Studies

Sam Salwan

Internship – Brookings Institution

Maanas Sharma

Research Project: "Algorithmic Redistricting and Gerrymandering in Texas' 2020 Congressional Districts"

Alec Sheres

Internship at the office of U.S. Representative Juan Vargas (D-CA, 52nd District)

Luka Srsic

Internship at the Department of Government Affairs, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Summer 2022

Umang Bansal

Research Project: U.S. unemployment insurance program in comparison with Germany and Canada

Ibrahim Suat Evren

Research Project in Market Design with Profs. Scott Kominers and Yannai Gonczarowski (Harvard)

Phillip Hood
Internship at Beto for Texas

Mallika Pajjuri
Research Project: “Civic Synergy – Depolarization Amongst Generation Z”

James Shaw
Internship at City of Boston, Mayor’s Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

David Spicer
Internship at Louisiana Department of Education

Summer 2021

Michelle Tang
Internship with Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven

Grace Song
Internship at MIT Washington DC Office

Stephanie Zhang
Internship at Department of Education and Senate HELP Committee

Summer 2020

David Spicer
Massachusetts Advocates for Children

Max Williamson
US Senator Chris Coons’ Re-Election Campaign, Delaware

Heidi Li
Research Project: “A Policy Outlook: Energy Transition in Appalachia Pennsylvania.”

Natasha Stamler
Research Project: “Using Earth Observation to Inform New York City Resiliency Planning.”

Prosser Cathey
Research Project: “Experimentally Testing a Game Theoretic Model of Social Dilemmas.”