



StopTheDrugWar.org • P.O. Box 9853 • Washington, DC 20016  
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## TECHNICAL INTERNSHIPS

**Hours:** Flexible, Based on School Requirements or Availability

**Supervisor:** Executive Director

**Location:** Washington, DC or remotely

**Internship length:** February 1, 2018 - April 30, 2018, negotiable (also willing to discuss summer or fall internships)

### The Organization

StopTheDrugWar.org works for an end to prohibition (e.g. for some form of "legalization") and the "drug war" in its current form. We want to replace the illicit drug trade and criminalization with a combination of regulation, health and social programs addressing substances' risks and harms.

StopTheDrugWar.org also works on partial reform efforts that are politically feasible in the shorter term. Some we're involved in are sentencing and police reform, advocacy for harm reduction practices such as needle exchange and naloxone distribution, demilitarization of US-driven drug policy in Latin America and other regions (including the US border), availability of substances for medical use, and human rights as affected by drug policies.

We are primarily US-based, but involved not only in US policy but also foreign policy. We are part of the global community of reform-minded NGOs who advocate internationally. We are a "niche" organization, in that we focus our limited budget and staffing on a few programs for which we are able to make a unique or disproportionate impact.

We currently are engaged in a high-profile campaign to end the drug war killings taking place in the Philippines. Visit <https://stopthedrugwar.org/philippines> to learn about our work in this area. Also please visit <https://stopthedrugwar.org/about> and <https://stopthedrugwar.org/global> for information on our history and projects.

### Our Values

- Tolerant
- Pluralistic
- Intellectual
- Open-Minded
- Friendly
- Passionate
- Positive
- Compassionate
- Team Players

### The Internships

Technical Interns will work directly with the Executive Director, as well as with contractors and advisors to the organization. Projects will address web site development, our current advocacy campaigns, security, and social media.

### Responsibilities

Tasks will be drawn from the following, depending on choice of internship projects and the timing of relevant work at the organization:

- Assist with IT security arrangements in the context of a sensitive human rights campaign.
- Assist web site programmer with new site development.
- Assist with transition from one Linux cloud server to another one with the same hosting company, as part of the launch of our new web site.
- Assist with PCI compliance process on new server.
- Assist with HTML web page and email construction.

- Assist in selection and setup of social media management software and environment.
- Assist with revamping our news tracking.
- Assist with selection and setup of contact management software for our coalition advocacy campaigns.
- Other tasks as they come up.

### **Job Requirements:**

The following are required for all applicants:

- Strong technical skills and aptitude.
- Strong attention to detail.
- Applicant must use their own computers and telephones.

The following are helpful skills that will be considered:

- Familiarity with Linux.
- Familiarity with Javascript programming.
- Familiarity with information security, especially for communications.
- Familiarity with social media management tools.
- Graphic design for web pages.

### **Work Arrangements**

- Our practice is to work with interns to find specific tasks and projects that fit their goals and interests, while being helpful to us. We want people to be engaged in their work with us and to find it useful for them.
- StoptheDrugWar.org has not rented our own office since 2011, but we have use of space rented by a partner group, Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP). When not there, we typically meet at local coffee shops.
- Interns and the Executive Director will meet at least once per week (normally in person, when necessary by phone or videoconference) to go over work and plans. In addition to directly work-related discussions, these meetings will also provide time for the mutual sharing of insights and knowledge and experience.
- While this is a technical internship, interns are welcome and encouraged to attend events in and meetings that take place in Washington on a variety of drug policy and criminal justice issues.
- Unfortunately we are not funded to provide financial compensation for internships this semester. We hope that will change in the future.

### **Contact**

- David Borden, Executive Director, [borden@drcnet.org](mailto:borden@drcnet.org), (202) 236-8620.

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