



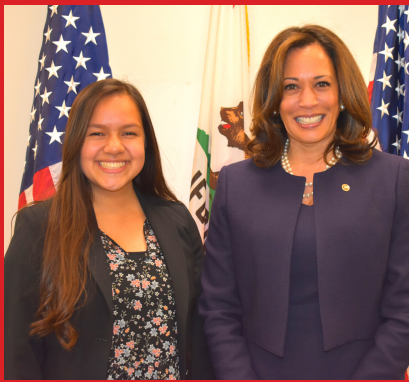
Cal State

DC Scholars



WE'RE BACK FOR THE NEW YEAR!

After a year-long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cal State D.C. Scholars Program will be back this summer, offering virtual internships, online classes and social engagement opportunities!



MEET ESMERALDA

Her new position with the Biden Administration.. followed on the heels of her internship with then California Senator Kamala Harris in 2018 as a Cal State DC Scholar. Taking her own advise, "No job is too big or too small for you. Do things with attention and grace." Esmeralda's team player attitude and commitment to outstanding work is what lead her to appointment as the Hiring Operations Manager for the Biden for President Campaign. She claims, "Experiencing politics in DC put me in a unique position that sparked my interest in different fields of politics that I didn't know existed."

THE BEST OF DC

DC is known as a political center but there is so much more to love about this city. Over the years we've taken hundreds of students to theatrical performances at Fords Theater and even more to various Blues and Jazz clubs around U Street to enjoy the sounds and learn about the cultural significance of all of these venues. We look forward to when clubs like frequent hangouts such as JoJos on U Street open again. In the meantime, we can enjoy the virtual event series at Fords Theater.

BIG NEWS

The Cal State DC Scholars Program is proud to announce the addition of a Deputy Director, Dr. Meriem Doucette. As an Assistant Professor of Public Administration in the Division of Politics, Administration, and Justice at California State University, Fullerton Dr. Doucette is well positioned for this appointment. She previously rebuilt our local internship program and oversaw the OC Fellows Program. She is passionate about the Cal State D.C. Scholars program, having participated in her alma mater's version of the program as an undergraduate, and then interning again in Washington D.C. for the Government Accountability Office (GAO) during graduate school.

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<http://calstatedcscholars.fullerton.edu/>





WORKING TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE

TO ALL OUR SCHOLARS...

Every year, the Cal State DC Scholars Program, one of our most prestigious and important programs, sends students to Washington, D.C., to learn about and take part in the vibrant city that houses the seat of the federal government. Given the turmoil and chaos of last week, we want to share a statement to our D.C. Scholars:

Congress as a place and an institution is sacred to all, but this has been an especially personal violation for our scholars who have worked in a bi-partisan manner on Capitol Hill and throughout Washington, D.C. To our scholars, past and future, we want to acknowledge and thank you for your service and commitment toward pursuing a better future for our country.

The acts of violence and threat to our democratic institutions that we witnessed with horror last month belie the values we hold dearly and the lessons we teach and learn as students of the Cal State D.C. Scholars Program.

We will continue to work toward a future that encourages a government and a society built upon mutual respect and appreciation for its public servants. For those who are still in the D.C. area, or are still working for Congress, we commend you for your continued commitment, and look forward to rejoining you in person when the world is healthier and safer.

HOT OFF THE HILL

Cal State DC Scholars Virtual Summer 2021 is open for applications. Being a student during the pandemic means that some experiences can't happen but thanks to our partner offices and many supportive alumni, we will offer virtual DC internships this summer and a course designed to bring DC to the students including alumni career mentoring. If you can help by facilitating a virtual internship, we would love to hear from you as we work to place our students for this summer. Please contact us at dcinterns@fullerton.edu and tell us about your office!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2020 DONORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

We were able to raise nearly \$50,000 in cash and in-kind donations. As we embark on 2021 please help us double our donor base and significantly increase our cash contributions, by donating below!

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

After a pandemic mandated hiatus, we are excited about our Virtual Summer 2021 DC Scholars program and even more excited about returning to the in-person program the following year. We have had great student interest in the Virtual program as these students are ready to set themselves apart and prepare for what is next. During this hiatus, we have taken the time to re-think the program and are exciting about some of the upcoming changes. To help with this we welcome several new Board members who will be profiled in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

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