Are you interested in pursuing challenging, temporary and career job opportunities that contribute directly to the public good? Then the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is for you. As the premier federal drug enforcement agency, DEA offers an excellent way to launch and grow a career designed to disrupt the illegal distribution of drugs domestically and internationally.

Our student and intern programs focus on opening doors to the exciting world of law enforcement careers through pre-professional work experiences that are relevant, meaningful to your academic or career-related goals, and from a variety of disciplines that DEA employs. This includes: accounting, acquisition, human resources, forensic chemistry, intelligence, investigations, information technology, telecommunications, and business management – just to name a few!

Student Educational Employment Program (SEEP)

Students can explore possible career directions at DEA before graduation through SEEP. This program was created to attract talented students to Federal public service. At DEA, it’s an opportunity to train with people who manage the day-to-day business of combating drug smuggling and use within the U.S. and abroad. SEEP has the following two components:

Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP)

STEP provides an opportunity for you to earn money, continue your education, learn from professionals, and combine academic study with on-the-job experience. The duties do not have to be related to your academic or career goals. You may work part time when school is in session and full time during vacation periods. Employment may last as long as you are a student in school.

Student Career Experience Program (SCEP)

SCEP offers valuable work experience directly related to your field of study. It provides formal periods of work and study while you are attending school. Participation in the program requires a commitment by you, your school, and DEA. The SCEP also combines academic classroom learning with practical, on-the-job experience and provides paid work experience in your field of study. Upon successful completion of at least 640 hours of work in the program and after obtaining your degree, you may be eligible for permanent employment with DEA.

You must contact your school guidance, career planning and placement office, or teacher to determine whether DEA has a SCEP agreement with your school before applying.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SEEP

You are eligible for student employment at DEA if you are: enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree-seeking student (diploma, certificate, etc.) at an academic, vocational or technical school; at least 16 years of age; taking at least half-time course load; and a U.S. citizen.

Careers for Recent Graduates (Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral)

There are a variety of career paths that can be followed as part of a career with DEA and a popular way to learn about them is through the Federal Career Intern Program (FCIP).

FCIP

FCIP is a 2-year entry-level, full-time employment and career development training program designed to ignite your career with DEA, transition you from college to a professional career, and develop your potential for future advancement. DEA currently offers FCIP for contract specialists and accountants.
Benefits

DEA offers many attractive benefits to students and recent graduates, including the opportunity to work at a job that can make a difference. These include: competitive salaries, year round employment, opportunity to develop skills, flexible work schedules, vacation and sick leave, transit subsidies, and for SCEP and FCIP participants, health insurance, life insurance, and retirement.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do your programs give preference to honorably discharged veterans?
A: Yes. If you served on active duty in the U.S. military you may be eligible for veterans’ preference. For more information, go to http://www.opm.gov/veterans.

Q: Do your programs accept individuals with disabilities?
A: Yes. DEA is an equal opportunity employer. Hiring and advancement are based on qualifications and performance, regardless of your race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.

Q: Do students need to take any written tests to apply for the student employment programs?
A: No. Written tests are waived for students in SCEP and STEP.

Q: Must students work or attend school during the summer?
A: Typically yes, but agencies may use their discretion to permit a “break in program” during which time a student is neither attending classes nor working.

Q: If selected under FCIP, am I guaranteed a permanent federal position?
A: No. FCIP gives you eligibility for a permanent appointment at DEA, but it does not guarantee you a position.

Note: Drug testing is required for all positions. Applicants who are found, through investigation or personal admission, to have experimented with or used narcotics or dangerous drugs, except those medically prescribed, will not be considered for employment with DEA. Exceptions to this policy may be made for applicants who admit to limited youthful and experimental use of marijuana. Compliance with this policy is an essential requirement of all positions.