



ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

IN ARMENIA

## ~ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS~

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*"Without a doubt, just seeing what and how things are really like in Armenia makes one understand Armenia better and one's relation with regard to the country, its people, its history, culture, traditions, and its future. For the first time in my life, things about myself, my parents and my grandparents that I was never able to understand before began to make sense. I saw the big picture and what it all meant for me personally. The experience opened up the doors of my mind to the areas of greatest need and the opportunities for change. It facilitated my involvement by providing me with the knowledge and know-how as well as the contacts and networking opportunities essential for any sort of business here."*

*~Sona Bekmezian, Armenian Assembly DC Intern (2004); Armenia Intern (2006)*

*"The internship program in Armenia surpassed all of my prior expectations. Not only did I create lasting friendships and gain valuable work experience, but I also acquired a newfound love and understanding of my culture and the Armenian people. It was an incredible experience."*

*~Nareeneh Sohbatian, Armenian Assembly Intern (2004); Armenia Intern (2005)*

*"Prior to coming to Armenia, I felt removed from Armenia and my cultural heritage. I had heard many stories that made me fearful that I might be disappointed from my visit. Instead, Armenians amazed me with their hospitality, cheerfulness, and intelligence. I realized that Armenia faces some substantial challenges, but also shows incredible potential."*

*~Eliz Agopian, Armenia intern (2004)*

*"Not a day goes by that I don't miss Armenia and the warmth of the people. I won't soon forget walking down Yerevan's broad avenues and through the city square and seeing St. Etchmiadzin. I learned a great deal from listening to young and old alike talk about their hopes for the future, concerns about Armenia's difficulties and their determination to build up the country."*

*~Michelle Jamian, Armenian Assembly DC intern (2000); Armenia intern (2001)*

*"I knew that the Assembly's program would be a worthy and fulfilling experience. I wish every young Armenian-American could experience a program of this type, in which one has the possibility of doing something for Armenia, while living like a Hayastantsi for a summer. Not many programs provide students that opportunity."*

*~Armen Toumajan, Armenian Assembly DC intern (2000); Armenia intern (2001)*

*"My internship at the America's Desk of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Yerevan, Armenia provided me with the ability to witness US-Armenia relations from the Armenian perspective. After having set the foundation for work dealing with US-Armenia relations as an intern in Congressman Frank Pallone's office during the previous summer, I was able to apply the skills while working in Yerevan. The trip allowed me to explore our homeland for the first time, while paving the way for future visits and nation-building efforts."*

*~Raffi Karakashian, Armenian Assembly DC intern (1998); Armenia intern (1999)*

**~APPLICATION FORM~**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Current Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Email \_\_\_\_\_

College or University \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a Passport? (yes/no) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Please provide a copy of your passport with your application)**

Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Proficiency in Eastern Armenian, on a scale of 1 to 5 (1=none, 5=fluent)

Oral \_\_\_\_\_ Written \_\_\_\_\_

Proficiency in Western Armenian, on a scale of 1 to 5 (1=none, 5=fluent)

Oral \_\_\_\_\_ Written \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any food or diet restrictions and/or allergies (Yes or No)? \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Internship Preference Area

Please indicate your top 5 choices (1 being your top choice.) We will make every effort to accommodate your first choice, but cannot guarantee placement. Factors affecting placement include language aptitude, number of other interns, need, etc. Your potential employer may request an interview, in addition to reviewing your resume.

Architecture\_\_\_\_\_

Business\_\_\_\_\_

Church\_\_\_\_\_

Culture / Arts\_\_\_\_\_

Economy\_\_\_\_\_

Education\_\_\_\_\_

Elections\_\_\_\_\_

Energy\_\_\_\_\_

Environment\_\_\_\_\_

Finance\_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Affairs\_\_\_\_\_

Health\_\_\_\_\_

Human Rights\_\_\_\_\_

Information Technologies (IT) \_\_\_\_\_

International Affairs\_\_\_\_\_

Law & Justice\_\_\_\_\_

Media\_\_\_\_\_

Public Relations\_\_\_\_\_

Refugee\_\_\_\_\_

Science\_\_\_\_\_

Social Affairs\_\_\_\_\_

Sport\_\_\_\_\_

Think Tanks\_\_\_\_\_

Trade / Business / Industry\_\_\_\_\_

Transportation / Communications\_\_\_\_\_

Urban Planning\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Affairs\_\_\_\_\_

Other (please indicate choice) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which sector you would like to work in: (1-6, with 1 being your top choice.)

Government / Ministries (Armenia)\_\_\_\_\_

Government / Parliament (Armenia)\_\_\_\_\_

International NGO\_\_\_\_\_

Local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) \_\_\_\_\_

Media\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Representation Office of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh\_\_\_\_\_

Other\_\_\_\_\_

In previous years, Assembly interns have been placed at some of the following offices:

Armenia Tree Project

Armenia TV

Armenian-American Wellness Center

Armenian International Policy Research Group (AIPRG)

Bars Media

Constitutional Court

Habitat for Humanity / Armenia

Hayastan All Armenia Fund

International Center for Human Development

Markaryan Medical Center

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports Affairs  
Ministry of Finance and Economy  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Health  
Ministry of Urban Development  
NKR Permanent Representation Office in Armenia  
Nork Marash Medical Center  
Office of the Ombudsman  
Orran Children's Center  
OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe)  
United Nations  
Van Dental Clinic

Other organizations which have indicated a desire for an Assembly intern include, but are not limited to:

Armenian Young Lawyers' Association  
Children of Armenia Fund  
Halo Trust, Inc.  
It's Your Choice  
Made In Armenia Direct  
National Democratic Institute  
Shoushi Reconstruction Fund

## **~INTERN ESSAY~**

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Please write a brief statement explaining your expectations of an internship in Armenia in your selected area of preference. Describe why you want to do an internship in Armenia, the skills you can bring to this internship, and what types of experience you would like to gain. Please type your essay and limit your response to one double-spaced typed page.

## ~EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION~

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Please provide the following information for two (2) emergency contacts:

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Number \_\_\_\_\_

**~HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE~**

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Interns must provide proof of insurance, including medical evacuation coverage, before being allowed to participate in the program. This proof of insurance must be provided to both the AAA/USA office AND AAA/ROA office. The Armenian Assembly suggests that Interns check to see if they are up to date on the recommend immunizations for travel to Eastern Europe at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure. Additional Information about immunization can be found at the following websites:

1. <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/easteurp.htm>
2. <http://travel.state.gov>

1. Do you take any prescription or non-prescription medication on a regular basis?  
(Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what medication(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Be aware that, if accepted, you should have a supply of your medication as you may not be able to refill your prescription in Armenia.**

2. Do you have any known allergies to any medication(s)? (Yes or No)

\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what medication(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any medical condition(s) of which we should be made aware? (Yes or No)

\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what condition(s)?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ~PROGRAM INFORMATION~

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The Armenian Assembly of America's (AAA) Summer Internship Program in Armenia provides for the unique opportunity to live and work in one of the most historically and culturally rich countries in the world. Since its inception in 1999, thirty-eight interns have participated in the program working in various government offices in Armenia. This internship provides Armenian-American youth a way in which to interact both professionally and socially with their Armenian counterparts. However, it is very important to keep in mind that the work environment and expectations in Armenia differ from that of the United States. Potential applicants should possess a great deal of responsibility to take initiative when needed.

The duration of the internship is eight weeks; work assignments can be extended in most cases. In order to help with the costs associated with the internship program, participants may apply for home stays and airfare subsidies through Birthright Armenia. Please visit [www.birthrightarmenia.org](http://www.birthrightarmenia.org) to see if you meet the eligibility criteria. The Armenian Assembly of America can also help to facilitate housing arrangements for participants to live in apartments that are shared with two or three interns. In addition to their daily work schedule, interns get to meet with government officials and other prominent individuals in and around Yerevan. These meetings are scheduled by the Summer Internship Coordinator in Yerevan. In addition to local activities, the Assembly staff organizes weekend trips to various historic and tourist locations throughout Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh.

Like any internship program of this nature, there are several costs associated with participation. Below is a table indicating the costs which will be covered by the Armenian Assembly and those which are the responsibility of the interns.

<b>Armenian Assembly</b>	<b>Interns</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AAA-organized weekend trips (rooming, transportation, meals)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Travel to and from Armenia</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local excursions (museums and tourist attractions)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing in Armenia</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daily meals</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tourist visa</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Damages reported to the housing accommodations (before and after walk-thru of apartments will be conducted)</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SOS Evacuation Insurance</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immunizations prior to arrival</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Souvenirs and incidental expenses</li></ul>

The Assembly does not allow or condone interns traveling to neighboring countries during the official period of our summer program, with the exception and under the supervision of AAA or Birthright staff. While interns may choose to extend their time in Armenia, or arrive before the program officially begins, the Assembly is in no way responsible for their activities or safety outside of the official program dates.

## ~HOW TO APPLY~

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**Step 1:** Complete the enclosed application packet, which includes:

- Application form
  - Intern essay
  - Emergency contact information
  - Health questionnaire
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**Step 2:** Gather the following materials and submit with your application packet:

- Transcript of grades
  - One sealed letter of recommendation (via mail)
  - Resume
  - Short writing sample
  - Copy of your passport (if available)
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**Step 3:** Send or fax your application and additional materials to the Armenian Assembly:

**Armenian Assembly of America  
Summer Internship Program In Armenia  
1140 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036**

**Fax: (202) 638-4904  
Attn: Internship Program Coordinator  
Tel: (202) 393-3434, ext. 237  
Email: [jpiatt@aaainc.org](mailto:jpiatt@aaainc.org)**

**DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS IS FEBRUARY 15, 2007**