



University of California, Berkeley - Goldman School of Public Policy

Consulting Services for the State of California Governor's Office and Legislature

Launched in Fall 2012, the APA Sacramento Program is a partnership between the University of California, Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy and the California State Office of the Governor and Legislature. This exciting program teams up a legislator, member of the Governor's Office, or a California State Agency (the Client) with one Goldman School MPP student (the Consultant) completing their master's thesis project (Advanced Policy Analysis or APA). This program gives legislators and staff an opportunity to utilize the consulting expertise of a Goldman student on current legislative issues and bills that are of high priority to key policy makers in Sacramento.

Guided under the supervision of a Goldman School faculty member to students have the opportunity to conduct high-quality quantitative and analytical policy analysis to evaluate and develop solutions to today's most complex policy problems facing the State of California.

What Our Students Provide

The students' academic experience includes interdisciplinary training in multiple fields including microeconomics and statistical modeling, political and agency management, law and public policy, public leadership and management. Students also bring strong verbal and written communication skills, problem-solving, innovative thinking and leadership skills; in addition, many students bring subject matter expertise drawn from prior professional work experience and elective courses they take during the program.

Program Benefits & Eligibility

Eligible participants (clients) must be legislators and key staff from the State of California Office of the Governor or State Assembly and Senate offices, both Democratic and Republican, with the goal of having an equal balance of projects between the two houses. The selected legislators and staff are the clients for these projects. Staff from State Agencies are also eligible.

Client Benefits Include:

- ▶ Rigorous analysis, research, and policy recommendations on contemporary issues and legislative bills.
- ▶ Project supervision by University of California, Berkeley faculty members from the Goldman School of Public Policy.
- ▶ Master's students with superior quantitative, statistical, communication, and analytical skills, as well as substantive work experience.
- ▶ Regularly scheduled interactions between clients and students to ensure that all work and product deliverables are on track.
- ▶ Final deliverables including a professional report that outlines policy recommendations and presentation to the client.

Expectations of Clients and Students

Client	Student
Meet with student prior to the start of the project to negotiate and define the project's scope and develop project timeline (projects begin in mid-January and end in early May).	Meet with client prior to the start of the project to negotiate and define the project's scope and develop project timeline (projects begin in mid-January and end in early May).
Provide internal data sources relevant to the project, advise students regarding external data sources; arrange student access to relevant stakeholders.	Provide list of data sources and relevant stakeholders needed to conduct research for the project.
Meet with student regularly throughout the Spring semester to ensure project stays on course; provide feedback and resources based on student progress reports throughout the semester.	Meet with client regularly throughout the Spring semester to ensure project stays on course; provide scheduled progress reports, including a mid-point status report on preliminary findings.
Read and provide feedback on mid-point status report on preliminary findings, interim report draft(s), and final report.	Submit mid-point status report* on preliminary findings, interim report draft(s), and final report to client for review and feedback.

**Dissemination of the final report should be discussed and agreed upon first by the client.*

APA Sacramento Program



Proposal Submission & Timeline

To Participate in Spring 2021:

Application Item	Deadline
<p>► Prospective Client Submits Proposal Submit simple online application form outlining project needs (more time can be requested if needed).</p>	Oct 9, 2020
<p>► Student Application Period Students apply for each proposal they are interested in</p>	Oct 14-21, 2020
<p>► Client Application Review, Interview, & Selection Period Begins The Goldman School will send any student application materials received for each proposal to the client for review, to students to interview; interviews may take place in person or by phone (more time can be requested if needed)</p>	Oct 23, 2020
<p>► Student Selection Finalized Deadline for clients to select a student for their proposal - if an appropriate match is found (more time can be requested if needed)</p>	Nov 13, 2020
<p>Project Timeline:</p> <p>► Project work begins week of January 21, 2021</p> <p>► Draft project due mid-April 2021</p> <p>► Final project due early May 2021</p>	
<p>Inquiries: Cecille C. Cabacungan Managing Director of Career & Alumni Services (cecille@berkeley.edu)</p>	

"Working with the Governor's Office of Planning & Research was a great experience; the topic interesting and timely and it enabled me to meet and incorporate perspectives of experts that I may not have accessed otherwise."

"Working for an Assemblymember on low-carbon fuel policy was an excellent experience...The Assemblymember's office was very helpful in providing guidance and letting me know what they wanted from the final product while allowing me a lot of latitude to explore any avenues I found interesting. In the end, the office adopted some of my recommendations and put them into legislative language."

"An incredible amount of policy making is done in Sacramento with far-reaching effects on stakeholders. Policy makers are hungry for high-quality, objective analysis that GSPP-trained analysts can provide. Working for the Senate Transportation & Housing Committee through this program was a fantastic opportunity to provide analytical support for policy decisions currently under consideration that will affect all users of California's roadways."

"I greatly enjoyed working with the Assembly Budget Committee on an analysis of health care quality in California's State Veterans' Homes through the APA Sacramento Program. This high-profile project allowed me to gain in-depth knowledge of a key system that delivers care to thousands of veterans while broadening my experience in health policy analysis. My client was extremely supportive, and it was incredible to work on a project in which so many state-level policy shapers were interested."

"Doing my APA for the Governor's Office was a great chance to work on a very timely, relevant, and high profile policy problem. It was very exciting to be in the mix of something that could majorly change energy policy in California, and potentially in other states across the country watching California's experience."

APA Sacramento Program Reports (2013 - 2020)

Spring 2020

- Catalyzing Sustainable Development Outside of California's Urban Centers: Lessons Learned from Early Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Awards (Senate Office of Research)
- Land Use Change in the California Delta (Department of Water Resources)
- Transit-weighted Opportunity Mapping: A Novel Tool to Bring Equity and Climate Goals into Balance (Governor's Office of Planning & Research)

Spring 2019

- Beyond the Landfill: Policy Solutions for Plastic Waste Reduction in CA (Office of Senator Nancy Skinner)
- Health Insurance for CA College Students: Landscape, Gaps, and Opportunities for Policy Improvement (Senate Office of Research)
- Expanding Health Care to Undocumented Adults (Senate Office of Research)

Spring 2018

- Gender Pay Equity in State Civil Service (Government Operations Agency)
- Investing in the Stewardship of California's Natural Resources (Senate Office of Research)

Spring 2017

Senate Office of Research

- Enhancing Crisis Intervention in California (Senate Office of Research)
- Analysis of the Whole Person Care Pilot & Medical-Behavioral Health Integration in Medi-Cal (Senate Office of Research)

Other Agencies/Offices:

- CA Climate Policy Analysis: How to Proceed with GhG Pricing Mechanisms (Office of Senator Nancy Skinner)
- A Comparison of Arrest Related Deaths in Kern County & Throughout CA (Department of Justice)
- Millennial Mobility Patterns: Implications on Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Public Policy (Air Resources Board)

Spring 2016

Governor's Office:

- A Cost-Effectiveness Model for Assessing Investments in Urban Forestry and Management Projects
- Assessing the Policy Potential of Large-Scale Compost Application on California Rangelands
- How CA Cities Can More Deeply Engage Communities Around Climate Action

Senate Office of Research:

- Adult Education System Alignment in CA: Fees and Assessment for Placement
- DMC-ODS at the Starting Blocks: Insights from Phase 1 Counties
- Restorative Justice as Diversion in California's Juvenile and Criminal Justice Systems

Other Agencies/Offices:

- Reforming Service Provider Rates in CA's Department of Developmental Services (Assembly Budget Committee)
- Increasing Access & Attracting Talent: The Future of Benefits for CA's Civil Service (Govt Operations Agency)

Spring 2015

Governor's Office:

- Cleaning The Air: Electrifying Transportation In The Central Valley
- Empowering CA's Guestworkers: How to Increase Protections for H-2A Workers in CA

Assembly Budget Committee

- Improving Service to Those Who Served: Recommendations for Delivering High-Quality Care in Veterans' Homes
- Looking Back in Moving Forward: A Retrospective Study of Health Care Access in CA Post-Great Recession

Other Agencies/Offices:

- Long-Term Revenue Projections for Alternatives to CA's Gas Excise Tax (Senate Cte on Transportation & Housing)
- CA's Specialty Mental Health System: Oversight Status and Challenges (Senate Office of Research)

Spring 2014

Governor's Office:

- Comparing Policies to Support Growth of Distributed Generation
- Preparing California Residents for Time of Use Electricity Rates
- Upgrading CA's Housing Stock: The Impacts of a Statewide Energy Efficiency Upgrade Mandate

Other Agencies/Offices:

- California Low Carbon Fuel Policy (Office of Assemblymember Mike Gatto D-43)
- An Institution-Level Analysis of Prison Spending in California (Assembly Budget Committee)
- Climate and Energy Impacts of Automated Vehicles (Air Resources Board)

Spring 2013

Governor's Office:

- Tribal Nation Grant Fund: Recommendations for Improving State Spending to Strengthen CA's Tribes
- Energy Data Access in CA: Approaches for Increasing Public Availability of Utility-Held Energy Data
- Beyond 33%: Future Prospects for CA's Renewables Portfolio Standard
- Pathways to Improving Zero Emission Vehicle Adoption Rates Across California