Paid Student Internship
Pay: Hourly $10 - $12
Benefits Eligible: No
Line Manager: TBD
Department: Data, Policy, and Performance Innovation (DPPI)
Status: Part-time 20 hrs/wk
Please email maria.lara@sorensonimpact.com with any questions you may have.

ABOUT US

The Sorenson Impact Center (SIC) at the University of Utah David Eccles School of Business envisions a thriving world where all people are valued, communities prosper, and the measured impact of our actions guides decision making. The Center advances global impact through innovation in impact investing and finance, public policy and government spending, and corporate and social sector behavior with organizations across the globe, and utilizes world-class data science, impact storytelling and collaboration as key tools. As part of its mission to train future impact leaders, the Center integrates academic programming and experiential learning into each of its practice areas. To learn more about the Center and apply to the Student program, please visit https://www.sorensonimpact.com/student-program.

OVERVIEW

The Sorenson Impact Center is seeking students to work with the Data, Policy, and Performance Innovation (DPPI) team on a range of unique, impactful projects. This position is tailored to students interested in social issues and public policy who will have the opportunity to work on a variety of government, foundation, and nonprofit consulting projects. Our student interns receive exposure to the most innovative tools being used to address social issues today, including Pay for Success projects, data-driven decision making, and performance-based contracting. Issue areas may include homelessness, criminal recidivism, public health, early childhood education, higher education, environmental preservation, economic development, and more. Student interns have the opportunity to engage with real-world clients while building their skills and portfolio.

We are looking for dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to join our team that thrive working in a fast-paced and collaborative environment. Please watch this short video to learn more about what we do. To support us in this work, we are looking for highly motivated self-starters who have some or all of the following:

- **Great communication and people skills**. You may work with data stewards, clients, agency managers, and others, and need to represent the Center in a courteous and professional manner.
- **Great project management skills**. There will be many simultaneous projects at any given time, and multiple parties to keep in contact with in order to ensure that the projects keep moving forward.
- **Good writing skills and attention to detail.** The reports we produce are used by industry leaders to influence decision-making, affect how funds are spent in both the public and private sectors, and are cited by news outlets and other researchers - so accuracy is critical.
- **Critical Thinking.** You will need to be able to think critically about large, complex issues that don't have easy answers.
- **Data Literacy.** Not all or our team members will need to be experts in analysis or programming, however, each should have a good understanding of the importance of data on how it is used for statistical analysis.
- **Experience with literature reviews and data gathering.** The information we need often comes from a combination of sources. You will need to be resourceful in conducting research and gathering data that is often publicly available but hard to find.
- **Data Literacy.** This is not required for all positions, but if you have this there will be opportunities to get involved in or even lead some projects involving analyses, data visualizations, and modeling. Our data scientists primarily use R, so it's an excellent opportunity to learn more about one of the fastest growing languages.

Duties include:
- Issue area research including literature reviews and landscape scans
- Identifying solutions and/or research methods
- Summarizing findings and drawing conclusions
- Project management
- Innovative and collaborative problem solving

This position requires the skills and experience in the following areas:
- Be proactive, innovative, and resourceful
- Demonstrate a "solutions-oriented" problem solver mentality
- Have strong written and verbal communication skills
- Have strong analytical skills, detail-oriented, proactive and self-motivated
- Ableto work with a team to complete projects on a timeline
- Ableto work with ambiguous project guidelines and be flexible with intended outcomes

Additional experience and knowledge that is highly valuable to the role:
- Educational or vocational experience in one of the above issue areas
- Previous experience working with clients
- Proficient Excel skills

The dynamic nature of work means the student experience becomes more valuable with deeper levels of engagement. To facilitate this experience, Student interns are expected to commit to working 20 hours per week for a minimum of two semesters (continuation beyond the first semester is dependent upon meeting the appropriate level of performance).

The Sorenson Impact Center strongly encourages diverse applicants , especially those who self-identify as Black, Native or Indigenous, People of Color, LGBTQIA+, non-binary, living with disabilities, neurodivergent, young, speak English as a second language, and others from overlooked / underestimated communities.

* Due to legal restrictions regarding student employment under certain Visa statuses, Sorenson Impact can not guarantee our ability to pay international students. For international students potentially selected, we commit to working with you and your institution to determine our ability to adequately compensate you for your time and energy. Please reach out with any questions.