The SPS Internship was started over 20 years ago by Jack Hehn, with one position at AAPT. Over the years, the program has continued to grow as more positions were offered.

Now in 2023, there are 17 different interns from 11 geographical zones around the USA! This number can fluctuate from summer to summer but stays in the range of 15 – 18 students.

The SPS Internship program has a strong emphasis on offering positions in non-research areas to enlighten students on what they can do with a physics degree after graduation. Positions are offered in:

- Science Policy
- Outreach
- Education
- History
- Research
- Science Writing

The diversity of positions offered allows students to see how the skills they’ve gained from earning their physics degree can be applied in ways outside of the classroom, and maybe even opening their eyes to careers they hadn’t thought of pursuing before. The internship also offers professional development, outreach, and networking opportunities throughout the summer.

**Eligibility**
- Students must be undergraduates and members of the SPS organization
- Spring/Summer bachelor’s degree graduates are eligible to apply
- Two years of college physics (or equivalent) preferred
- But NOT required!
- U.S. citizenship may be required for some positions
- Some placements are located at US government sites, which may require citizenship for some locations

**Further Internship Resources**
Interested in reading more about the interns’ experiences, applying, or sharing with your students for them to apply? Check out these resources below to see what position(s) may interest you:

- Weekly blogs
- Recorded Symposums
- Final Presentations

**SPS Intern Career Trajectory**
How has the internship influenced the pathways of past interns? Check out the case studies below to learn more about their postgraduate careers.

- **Amanda Williams**
  - SPS SOCK Intern 2018
  - Went on to work in science outreach-based jobs:
    - STEM Director for Boys & Girls Club
    - 9th Grade Physics Teacher

- **Krystina Williamson**
  - AAPT Teacher Professional Development Programs Intern 2018
  - Now works as a middle school science teacher

- **Joseph Watson**
  - NASA Goddard Research Intern 2021
  - Now works at NASA Goddard

- **Mikayla Cleaver**
  - Society of Rheology Intern 2018
  - Now works at SPS as the Programs Coordinator

Left: The 2023 SPS Internship class poses at the American Center for Physics on Orientation Day.
Right: 2022 SPS Interns Saksham Prajapati and Gizem Dogan participate in the Astronomy on the Mall outreach event in Washington, DC.

Photos courtesy of SPS.