

## About the Program

[Home to Texas \(HTT\)](#) is an IC<sup>2</sup> Institute program that returns undergraduates to their hometowns with summer internships and experiences aimed to help them understand the underlying values of their home communities. Students work full-time for nine weeks for an organization in the community, while also conducting research on community value propositions and reporting findings to UT Austin. Each participating student receives a UT Austin scholarship of \$5,000. No separate payment from employers is expected.

Participating students will develop a greater appreciation of their hometown communities, increasing the chance they will consider returning after graduation. This program also demonstrates the growing commitment of UT Austin to engage with the entire state of Texas, solidifying UT's relationship with alumni and regional and state leaders.

## Requirements

Students applying for a HTT internship must be in their first or second year of undergraduate study at UT Austin.

Students from all majors are eligible to participate.

Students must commit to nine weeks (Jun 1 – Jul 31) of full-time work for an organization in their hometown.

In addition to duties for their internship organization, HTT students also will be required to attend two pre-internship on-campus meetings, at least four video-calls throughout the summer, and at least two post-internship on-campus meetings.

During the internship period, HTT students will conduct at least twelve interviews of community members and report their findings to the IC<sup>2</sup> Institute. Prior to the internship start date, information will be provided on the format for these interviews and reports. More information is below.

## Types of positions

The program seeks to find positions that are interesting, challenging, and impactful. In many, but not all, cases, the internship will provide the student with an opportunity to work in their field of study. Students will have an opportunity to review basic information about the assignment before accepting the HTT placement.

## Research work on your community

During their summer experience, HTT students interview community and civic leaders, connect with the local UT Austin alumni network, and report on what they have learned. Interview questions relate to community members thoughts on the value of the community. Typically, students summarize their interviews in about two short paragraphs. They also periodically take part in group video calls to discuss interviews. These sessions are normally scheduled at 5:00 pm or 5:30 pm after regular work hours.

The IC<sup>2</sup> Institute provides HTT students with training in conducting meaningful interviews prior to the start of the summer internship.

## Students How To:

- Step 1: Complete the Student Application Form [here](#). Priority application deadline: February 28, 2020. After that date, applications will be reviewed on a rolling, as-needed basis.
- Step 2: Receive information on the availability of an internship in March.
- Step 3: If offered an internship, document your commitment to the program by April 3.
- Step 4: Attend an information session on-campus in April.
- Step 5: Attend a pre-departure meeting on-campus in May.
- Step 6: Via email or telephone, communicate with your employer and cover the following topics:
- Scheduling. A default schedule would be 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with an hour off for lunch. Confirm or discuss this with your employer. Note that HTT interviews take place outside of regular work hours. Students are not expected to take vacation time during the 9-week internship. Rare exceptions can be granted if both the employer and the UT program director (Dr. Markman) approve. Find out the organization's policies on sick leave and notice for such absences.
  - Discuss the tasks you will be engaged in. Plan to communicate initially and then repeatedly throughout the internship about expectations for work, deliverables, and task deadlines.
  - Confirm who your supervisor will be and whom you should express questions and concerns to.
  - Find out what the dress code is for your organization.
- Step 7: Begin your internship and interview work!
- Step 8: Attend scheduled video calls with HTT program leadership.
- Step 9: Attend the July HTT event in your community. Dates and venues will be announced in June.
- Step 10: Attend at least two additional on-campus meetings after returning to campus in late August.

## Contact Us:

For questions or clarification, please email [htt@ic2.utexas.edu](mailto:htt@ic2.utexas.edu).