Domestic Internship Criteria

DPCS Service Criteria:

1. Internships should be comprised of a direct service project that contributes to the welfare, development, and fulfillment of other human beings.

2. Interns should devote approximately 60% of their time to direct community service, defined as work in which volunteers engage personally with those being served, providing labor that fills an identified community need. Examples of direct service include teaching, youth programming, work with the elderly, construction work, medical work that involves direct engagement with patients, hands on environmental work, and community organizing. Activities such as research, shadowing, public policy, office support, fundraising, and event planning may be part of an internship, but are not considered direct service, and must not constitute more than 40% of the proposed internship.

3. The Center for Service prefers placements that challenge students to explore personal or social values and moral concerns. We strongly encourage students to seek the challenge of unaccustomed environments and situations for their work.

Logistics:

1. Internship placements must involve 40 hours of work per week for a period of 8-10 weeks.

2. Internship placements may be undertaken in any community of the United States, including the intern’s hometown or the Upper Valley.

3. A Community Service Organization (CSO) Supervisor’s Statement of Agreement must be signed by a supervisor at the CSO and returned to the Center for Service by the application deadline.

4. Students are required to write a 5-page reflection paper and participate in a one-on-one debriefing as well as a group debriefing at the conclusion of their internship. Students are encouraged to share their internship experiences with the Dartmouth community.

5. DPCS matches all interns with a Dartmouth alumnus and attempts to match interns and alums using common interests and/or geographic location.

Community Service Organizations:

1. CSOs should primarily focus on direct involvement (typically for 60% of the intern's time) with the group of people being served.

2. Advocacy agency internships must provide interns with direct-service experience through contact and action with people and/or the issue. School, hospital, and camp placements must involve groups assessed to be specifically disadvantaged or challenged in some way. Research-based projects, which do not involve direct contact, are not allowed.

3. Interns are eligible to serve in faith-based social service organizations, but the work of the fellowship must not include any specific religious work. Religious work is defined as, but not limited to, conducting religious services, teaching religious education, providing religious or
spiritual counseling, evangelizing, fundraising or development work for specifically religious functions, or administrative support work for religious activity.

4. Organizations must not promote, support, or engage in actions that violate or compromise Dartmouth College’s policy on discrimination: Dartmouth College is committed to the principal of equal opportunity for all its students, faculty, employees, and applicants for admission and employment. For that reason Dartmouth does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, disability, or military or veteran status in its programs, organizations, and conditions of employment and admission.

5. Candidates should have a clear idea of what their work as an intern will entail and their role within the mission of the CSO.

6. DPCS prefers that the CSO be small and manageable, or that within a larger CSO, the candidate’s prospective placement area be small.

7. CSOs must be non-profit and politically non-partisan. By federal law, lobbying projects are excluded from our funding.