**Opportunities for Students with Disabilities at the**

**U.S. Department of Transportation**

Are you interested in a career that combines personal growth and opportunity with vital national importance? Accelerate your career…with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

Think about the role America’s transportation system plays today, and will continue to play, in improving our quality of life and economic vitality. Our system is the world’s best. And we’re looking for motivated people with new ideas – people who want to make a difference – to ensure our transportation system continues to lead the world.

DOT offers a range of dynamic career opportunities. You’ll be in position to make things happen, in areas that are important to the safety, security, economic health, and environmental stewardship of the nation.

**Get your career in motion and join the agency that keeps America moving.**

U.S. citizenship is required for all student and permanent employment opportunities. All candidates will be considered regardless of race, color, religion, disability, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors.

**Students with Disabilities**

Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood is committed to making the U.S. Department of Transportation a model employer of a diverse workforce that includes people with disabilities, especially those with targeted disabilities (deafness, blindness, partial paralysis, total paralysis, missing limbs, distortion of limbs or spine, psychiatric disabilities, intellectual disabilities, and convulsive disorders). We have a hiring goal that 3% of our workforce will be persons with targeted disabilities. More guidance and information for applicants with disabilities is located on our web site: [www.drc.dot.gov/employment.htm](http://www.drc.dot.gov/employment.htm).

**Internships**

As the U.S. population changes and grows, so does DOT and its workforce. DOT's commitment to develop a diverse and talented workforce is reflected in several outstanding internship programs. In addition to gaining quality work experience, students may have the opportunity to meet with senior-level DOT officials, including the Secretary of Transportation, and participate in activities that will enhance their knowledge about the transportation industry and public service.

**Office of the Secretary, Office of the General Counsel, Volunteer Legal Internships:**  <http://www.dot.gov/ost/ogc/org/interns.html>. The Office of the General Counsel welcomes applications from law students for various internships offered in our offices. These positions are available year round, and may be with or without academic credit.

**Federal Aviation Administration Minority Serving Institutions, Internship Program:** <http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ahr/jobs_careers/student_programs/minority/index.cfm>

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Requirements:

Students must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale. Students majoring in the following majors are encouraged to apply: engineering (aerospace, mechanical, electrical, electronics, computer), aviation, human factors, math, computer science, legal, economics, communications, and business administration.

We offer a weekly stipend plus the cost of travel, special orientations, workshops, field trips, and counseling. Students may earn academic credit for their participation in an internship during their internship.

Internships are available throughout the year:

Spring (January to May) 15 weeks Application Deadline: November 1

Summer (June to August) 10 weeks Application Deadline: March 1

Fall (September to December) 15 weeks Application Deadline: July 1

For more information and to apply, send your resume to Mai.Nguyen@faa.gov.

**Federal Highway Administration Student Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups (STIPDG):** <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/stipdg.htm>.

The STIPDG program provides undergraduate, graduate, and law students with a paid internship experience that merges academic studies with real world work-related assignments. Students must have an interest in considering transportation as a career. All majors are encouraged to apply. The internship application deadline is in December. Please visit the web site listed above for more details.

**Research and Special Programs Administration, John A. Volpe Transportation Internship:** <http://www.volpe.dot.gov/career/intrnshp.html>, for students enrolled in, accepted into, or with a pending application for the upcoming academic year at an accredited graduate level program in the engineering, scientific, or social sciences disciplines. You must be an United States citizen; and have a strong interest in contributing to the future of transportation.

**Cooperative Education Program (Co-Op)**

In addition to its various internship programs, DOT also supports college students through the Cooperative Education Program (Co-Op). Co-Ops can provide you with a great paid work

experience while you are in school. After you finish your degree and complete all Co-Op requirements, you may be eligible for non-competitive permanent employment with DOT.

Co-Op features include:

* Open to students from high school through graduate or professional schools, including technical and vocational schools
* An opportunity to gain work experience directly related to an academic field of study
* A flexible work schedule on a part-time or full-time basis
* Allow students to earn leave credit for illness and vacation
* Health and life insurance options

Requirements:

Students are eligible for a Co-Op if they meet all of the following criteria:

* Are enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree student (diploma, certificate, etc.) in an accredited institution
* Are at least the minimum age required by Federal, State or Local laws and standards governing the employment of minors
* Are taking at least a half-time academic or vocational or technical course load in an accredited high school, technical or vocational school, two-year or four-year college or university, graduate or professional school
* Are a U.S. citizen or a national (resident of American Samoa or Swains Island). Non-citizens may be eligible for employment if they are: (1) permitted by a Federal agency's appropriations act; and (2) eligible to work under U.S. immigration laws
* U.S. citizenship is required for conversion to permanent employment under this program

**Next Steps…**

If you are interested in participating in a Co-Op, you should contact your school career planning and placement office to coordinate with DOT. You may network with DOT’s Selective Placement Coordinators (SPCs) who are designated to help recruit qualified individuals with disabilities to work for DOT. A full list of our SPCs is available at the following web page: [www.drc.dot.gov/employment.htm](http://www.drc.dot.gov/employment.htm).

**We look forward to working with you!**

**Disability Resource Center**

**U.S. Department of Transportation**

**1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, W56-404, Washington, DC 20590**

**Voice 202-493-0625; TTY 202-366-5273**

**Email** **drc@dot.gov****; Web** [**www.drc.dot.gov**](http://www.drc.dot.gov/)