

Value of an Intern

On behalf of the Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants (IAMMA) Board of Directors, I would like to take a moment to update you on an exciting internship initiative to promote the local government profession. The program is a new collaborative effort between IAMMA's Next Generation Committee and ILCMA's Communications Committee and is aimed at connecting prospective pre-career MPA students or career-changing professionals to municipal internship experiences throughout Illinois. An internship in local government is a great opportunity for graduate or undergraduate students to learn new skills, increase knowledge and awareness of local government, and engage in relevant real-world experiences while exploring their career interests. To further this initiative, IAMMA and ILCMA members have been actively visiting college campuses to promote the local government profession and available internships to students.

I know we can all agree that enhancing the awareness of local government internships is imperative to the future growth and sustainability of professional local government management. We ask all of you to join us in this effort and consider if an administrative intern is right for your organization. Consider the benefits other municipalities have received, which include, among others:

- Interns perform high-level tasks like event planning, communications outreach, and research at a fraction of the cost
- Interns bring new, innovative ideas and methods to solve the problems of today and tomorrow
- Over 80% of Managers/CAOs reported that they would recommend hiring interns to other managers based on their performance

To learn more about how you can establish a meaningful internship experience within your organization, please see the flyer included in this newsletter.

If you have questions or need additional resources such as sample job descriptions, position announcements or in-basket exercises please contact me or the Co-Chairs of IAMMA's Next-Generation Committee:

Mike Strong
Assistant to the City Manager
strongm@cityoflakeforest.com

Glen Cole
Assistant to the Village Administrator
gcole@lakebluff.org

We appreciate your ongoing support and hope you continue to offer members or your organization the opportunity to engage in IAMMA's programs, services and events.



Andrew Lichterman
President, IAMMA