

# VISION NEW AMERICA

Providing internship opportunities and civic leadership development for high school and college students



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**DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION ONLINE**  
[WWW.VISIONNEWAMERICA.ORG](http://WWW.VISIONNEWAMERICA.ORG)

**Application Deadline:**  
 February 2, 2007

## The**HEALTH**Trust

The Public Health and Policy Internship Programs are supported by a grant from The Health Trust. The Health Trust is a public benefit corporation committed to improving the health and wellness of at-risk, underserved Santa Clara County residents.

Mail to:



## Telephone

(408) 260-0116

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8am-6pm

Alan Miyakawa, Program Manager

(408) 260-0116

[alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org](mailto:alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org)

## 2006-2007 Board of Directors

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## Executive Director

Ron P. Muriera

## Message from the Executive Director Ron P. Muriera

“Learn today, lead tomorrow – Building a foundation for the future”

Dear Prospective Interns:

Thank you for picking up a copy of Vision New America's 2007 Catalog. This catalog has been designed to be a helpful resource for our prospective interns. We hope that this catalog will motivate and inspire those who are unfamiliar with our work to learn more about us.

I am privileged to be a part of a wonderful organization that brings together a group of diverse individuals all with a common mission. We currently have internship programs available for college and high school students, as well as recent college and high school graduates.

In the months ahead, there will be more to come and many positive developments to unveil. I encourage you to take a look at our 2007 Catalog and apply for an internship program that suits your educational and professional goals. If we can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact us at (408) 260-0116. We look forward to serving you!

*Ron P. Muriera*





# VISION NEW AMERICA

## Our Mission

Started in 1996, Vision New America's mission is to promote the participation of underrepresented ethnic groups in American civic activities through internship programs in various governmental offices and educational activities.

With that mission in mind, Vision New America currently offers internship opportunities and civic leadership development to high school and college students. Students are placed in local, state, and federal governmental offices in the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Washington D.C.

Starting in 2005, the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI), located at De Anza College, has provided Vision New America interns with comprehensive civic leadership training. Headed by Dr. Michael Chang, the former mayor of Cupertino (CA), APALI is now going into its 10<sup>th</sup> year. Vision New America is proud to partner with APALI and Dr. Chang in 2007.

## Our Training Program

All interns who are admitted into the Vision New America internship program are required to take part in an APALI course. APALI and Vision New America offer two course options: a course in the spring and an extended in-depth summer course. Both courses offer college credit.

### 2007 Spring Class

**Date:** April 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29

**Time:** 9:00am-5:00pm

**Location:** United Way Silicon Valley

College Fee: \$73 (*approx.*)

High School Fee: \$25 (*approx.*)

**4 units**

### 2007 Summer Youth Leadership Academy

**Date:** July 3 to August 2 (TWTh)

**Time:** 9:00am-5:00pm

**Location:** De Anza College

DAC Students Fee: \$120 (*approx.*)

College Fee: \$296 (*approx.*)

High School Fee: \$199 (*approx.*)

**8 units**

## About APALI

[www.svapali.org](http://www.svapali.org)

Founded in 1997, the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI) at De Anza College is a public service organization supported by visionary philanthropists, together with corporate, foundation, and community partners.

The vision of APALI is to advance civic leadership and to create a pipeline of civic leaders from underrepresented minorities. Each year, APALI provides training and networking services to 150 leaders ranging from youth leaders to elected officials.



# COLLEGE PROGRAMS

## Public Health and Policy Internship Program

Vision New America's Public Health and Policy Internship Program is supported by a grant from The Health Trust. The internship program was developed to train students to be leaders in health advocacy, policy, and service. The internship program will help students:

1. Gain a better understanding of health-care issues affecting the community;
2. Develop leadership abilities so that they will be better prepared to take on leadership roles to address health issues;
3. Provide direct health service to the community through volunteer work to better prepare them to be effective and culturally competent health-care advocates.

### Program Highlights

Internship Areas:	Santa Clara County, CA
College Credits:	4-8 units
Program Length:	April to November
Program Costs (approx):	\$73 to \$296 tuition, plus \$100 enrollment
Scholarship:	\$750 to \$1000, depending on placement

### Past Internship Office Placements

Senator Elaine Alquist, County Board Supervisor Jim Beall, Assemblywoman Rebecca Cohn, Assemblyman Joe Coto, County Board Supervisor Liz Kniss, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, Assemblyman Ira Ruskin

### Program Requirements

Voter Registration:	Register 15 new voters
Community Service:	20 hrs
Internship:	180 hrs
Training Course:	Approx 40 hrs
Program evaluations	

### Admissions Applications are due by February 2, 2007

Grade Level:	Undergrad and graduate students
GPA:	3.0 GPA preferred

### How to Apply

All applications must be postmarked by February 2, 2007. When sending your application, please be sure to include:

- Completed application form
- Official transcript
- Resume
- Written statement
- 2 Letters of recommendation
- Income Tax Form (if applying for fee waiver)

#### Mail completed application to:

Vision New America  
 1922 The Alameda, Suite 208  
 San Jose, CA 95126

### Financial Assistance and Scholarship

Vision New America provides numerous scholarships, stipends, and fee waivers to make its programs accessible to students from all financial backgrounds.

**Scholarship:** *All students* who complete the internship requirements receive a scholarship (see program highlights)

#### Transportation Stipend

*Qualifying students* receive up to \$120 for mileage and parking

#### Fee Waivers

*Qualifying students* receive up to \$396 in enrollment and tuition fee waivers

**How to Apply:** To apply for a fee waiver, simply attach your parent's latest Income Tax form when submitting an application (such as a 1040 or 1040EZ form).

For security purposes, you may cross out your parents SSN.

**Note:** If you are no longer listed as a dependent on your parents Income Tax form, you must submit your own Income Tax form.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the strength of their application.

# Public Policy Internship Program

Vision New America's Public Policy Internship Program places students in governmental offices in the Bay Area, Sacramento, and Washington D.C. The internship program was developed to train students to be leaders in advocacy, policy, and public service. The internship program will help students:

1. Gain a better understanding of issues affecting the community;
2. Develop leadership abilities so that they will be better prepared to take on leadership roles to address community issues;
3. Provide direct service to the community through volunteer work to better prepare them to be effective and culturally competent community leaders.

## Program Highlights

Internship Areas:	Bay Area, Sacramento, and Washington D.C.
College Credits:	4-8 units
Program Length:	April to November
Program Costs (approx):	\$73 to \$296 tuition, plus \$100 enrollment
Scholarship:	\$750 to \$2500, depending on placement

## Past Internship Office Placements

Assemblywoman Wilma Chan, Congressman Mike Honda, Mayor Gavin Newsom, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, Assemblyman Simon Salinas, Assemblyman Alberto Torrico, Assemblyman Van Tran, Department of Education, Department of Labor, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Aviation Administration

## Program Requirements

Voter Registration:	Register 15 new voters
Community Service:	20 hrs
Internship:	180 hrs
Training Course:	Approx 40 hrs
Program evaluations	

## Admissions

 Applications are due by February 2, 2007

Grade Level:	Undergrad and graduate students
GPA:	3.0 GPA preferred

## How to Apply

All applications must be postmarked by February 2, 2007. When sending your application, please be sure to include:

- Completed application form
- Official transcript
- Resume
- Written statement
- 2 Letters of recommendation
- Income Tax Form (if applying for fee waiver)

### Mail completed application to:

Vision New America  
1922 The Alameda, Suite 208  
San Jose, CA 95126

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the strength of their application.

## Intern Testimonials

Here's what the interns had to say about their internship experience.

The Vision New America internship experience has been amazing. I cannot believe how much fun I've had working out of an elected official's office. Also, the people who belong to this organization, fellow interns and program managers alike have been an awesome source of knowledge, support, and inspiration that has made me rethink a lot about my future career goals.

*Roderick Bersamina*  
*San Jose State University*

As a political science major in college, I have spent a significant amount of time during these three years reading, analyzing, and writing about various governments and the inner-workings of political systems. The bulk of what I knew about government, politics, and political figures was derived from what I read in the newspapers or what I learned about in class. I felt that in order to have a more complete picture of what politics is, I needed to experience government and get involved myself.

*Tiffany Mok*  
*Wellesley College*



# HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

## Public Health and Policy Internship Program

Vision New America's Public Health and Policy Internship Program is supported by a grant from The Health Trust. The internship program was developed to train students to be leaders in health advocacy, policy, and service. The internship program will help students:

1. Gain a better understanding of health-care issues affecting the community;
2. Develop leadership abilities so that they will be better prepared to take on leadership roles to address health issues;
3. Provide direct health service to the community through volunteer work to better prepare them to be effective and culturally competent health-care advocates.

### Program Highlights

Internship Areas:	Santa Clara County, CA
College Credits:	4-8 units
Program Length:	April to November
Program Costs (approx):	\$25 tuition, plus \$100 enrollment
Scholarship:	\$450 to \$1000, depending on placement

### Past Internship Office Placements

Senator Elaine Alquist, County Board Supervisor Jim Beall, Councilwoman Nora Campos, Assemblywoman Rebecca Cohn, Assemblyman Joe Coto, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, Assemblyman Ira Ruskin

### Program Requirements

Voter Registration:	Register 15 new voters
Community Service:	20 hrs
Internship:	120 hrs
Training Course:	Approx 40 hrs
Program evaluations	

### Admissions Applications are due by February 2, 2007

Grade Level:	Fresh to graduating senior
GPA:	3.0 GPA preferred

### How to Apply

All applications must be postmarked by February 2, 2007. When sending your application, please be sure to include:

- Completed application form
- Official transcript
- Resume
- Written statement
- 1 Letter of recommendation
- Income Tax Form (if applying for fee waiver)

#### Mail completed application to:

Vision New America  
 1922 The Alameda, Suite 208  
 San Jose, CA 95126

### Financial Assistance and Scholarship

Vision New America provides numerous scholarships, stipends, and fee waivers to make its programs accessible to students from all financial backgrounds.

**Scholarship:** *All students* who complete the internship requirements receive a scholarship (see Program Highlights)

#### Transportation Stipend

*Qualifying students* receive up to \$120 for mileage and parking

#### Fee Waivers

*Qualifying students* receive up to \$396 in enrollment and tuition fee waivers

**How to Apply:** To apply for a fee waiver, simply attach your parent's latest Income Tax form when submitting an application (such as a 1040 or 1040EZ form).

For security purposes, you may cross out your parents SSN.

**Note:** If you are no longer listed as a dependent on your parents Income Tax form, you must submit your own Income Tax form.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the strength of their application.

# Public Policy Internship Program

Vision New America's Public Policy Internship Program places students in governmental offices in the Bay Area. The internship program was developed to train students to be leaders in advocacy, policy, and public service. The internship program will help students:

1. Gain a better understanding of issues affecting the community;
2. Develop leadership abilities so that they will be better prepared to take on leadership roles to address community issues;
3. Provide direct service to the community through volunteer work to better prepare them to be effective and culturally competent community leaders.

## Program Highlights

Internship Areas:	Santa Clara County, USA
College Credits:	4-8 units
Program Length:	April to November
Program Costs (approx):	\$25 tuition, plus \$100 enrollment
Scholarship:	\$300

## Past Internship Office Placements

Board Supervisor Jim Beall, Councilwoman Nora Campos, Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez, Assemblywoman Rebecca Cohn, Councilman Dave Cortese, Board Supervisor Don Gage, Councilwoman Linda Lezotte, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, Vice Mayor Otto Lee, Assemblyman Ira Ruskin, Congressman Pete Stark, Senator Tom Torlakson, Assemblyman Alberto Torrico, Councilman Forrest Williams

## Program Requirements

Voter Registration:	Register 15 new voters
Community Service:	20 hrs
Internship:	100 hrs
Training Course:	Approx 40 hrs
Program evaluations	

## Admissions Applications are due by February 2, 2007

Grade Level:	Fresh to graduating senior
GPA:	3.0 GPA preferred

## How to Apply

All applications must be postmarked by February 2, 2007. When sending your application, please be sure to include:

- Completed application form
- Official transcript
- Resume
- Written statement
- 1 Letter of recommendation
- Income Tax Form (if applying for fee waiver)

### Mail completed application to:

Vision New America  
1922 The Alameda, Suite 208  
San Jose, CA 95126

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the strength of their application.

## Intern Testimonials

Here's what the interns had to say about their internship experience.

I'm really happy to have had the opportunity to experience this internship as well as VNA's other events. This has really given me an opportunity to become a much more organized and hardworking person. I've also become more independent and I'm actually getting to see how the city government works, the community and its relations with its leaders.

*Katherina Nguyen  
Piedmont High School*

This experience was unforgettable and I will always remember what I felt coming out of the internship as well as my determination to be more involved with my community. I am truly glad that I had this opportunity and I will always retell my tale to others.

*Patty Liu  
Monta Vista High School*

# VISION NEW AMERICA

1922 The Alameda, Suite 208 | San Jose, CA 95126 | Phone: (408) 260-0116 | Fax: (408) 260-0180

## 2007 Application

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION (Please print neatly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
last first middle

Gender: Female Male Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
month day year

Drivers License (State, #): \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship Status: US Citizen Permanent Resident \*Household Income: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street city state/zip

Current Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Contact: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
street city state/zip

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
city state

Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. WRITTEN STATEMENT

Please address one of the following topics in 500 words or less. Please use one-inch margins and 12 point Times New Roman font.

1. What is an issue or concern that you are passionate about? What have you done or planned to do to improve the matter?
2. Tell us about a time in your life when you either exercised leadership skills or failed to do so. What did you learn from the experience?
3. Why do you want to participate in Vision New America's internship program? What have you done to increase civic participation or political awareness in your community?

## 5. PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Please use separate pieces of paper if necessary.

a. What are your educational, personal, and career goals?

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b. Use a few adjectives or phrases to describe yourself.

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c. Please list all other extra-curricular activities you will be involved with during the summer of 2007.

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## 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PLACEMENT PURPOSES

Please list computer/technical skills, foreign language proficiency, research skills, and any other special skills.

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## 7. INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT

Please select the time you would like to work (check all that apply)

Summer internship

Fall internship  
(college applicants only)

Please select the area you would like to work (check all that apply)

Bay Area

Sacramento  
(college applicants only)

Washington D.C.  
(college applicants only)

Please select the program that you would like to apply for (check all that apply)

Public Health and Policy Internship Program

Public Policy Internship Program

Please select the APALI program that you would like to be in (check all that apply)

Spring class

Summer Youth Leadership Academy

## 8. RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

How did you find out about Vision New America's internship programs?

Newspaper: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ Flier: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

## 9. STUDENT CERTIFICATION

I understand that I hold Vision New America, its agents and employees harmless from any and all liability or claims, which may arise out of, or occur, in connection with my participation in this program.

I understand that this application, plus all accompanying documents, become property of Vision New America and will be shown to potential supervisors of my internship

I certify that the information I submitted on this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that I will be liable for all costs that Vision New America may incur as the result of any misrepresentation, omission, or willful inaccuracy that I include on this application.

During my internship, I understand that I am responsible for any and all medical expenses that may be incurred. I am responsible either personally or through my insurance coverage.

I understand that Vision New America is not responsible for the theft of, or damage to, my personal property.

If selected, I understand that I must complete all program requirements in order to receive my scholarship award, which include, but are not limited to: Registering new voters, completing community service, attending all trainings and orientations.

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Name of applicant (please print)	Signature of applicant	Date
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## 10. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please make a copy of the complete application for your records. Please be sure that you have included the following items:

- Completed application form
- Official transcript
- Resume
- Written statement
- Letters of recommendation (1 for High School, 2 for College)
- Income Tax Form (if applying for fee waiver)

### Mail completed application to:

Vision New America  
1922 The Alameda, Suite 208  
San Jose, CA 95126

**All applications must be postmarked by Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007** to be considered for the 2007 internship programs. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the strength of their application. 30 high school and 30 college students will be accepted into the internship program.

\* Income is recorded for grant and scholarship purposes.

\*\*Ethnicity is recorded for grant purposes only.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)** see website for additional FAQ

### ***Will Vision New America provide transportation to my internship?***

Vision New America does not provide transportation to the internship offices or to training site locations.

For students that qualify, Vision New America provides up to \$120 in stipends to help pay for public transportation, gas, or parking fees incurred during the internship program

### ***Is the internship paid?***

The internship is not paid. However, Vision New America provides a scholarship for all students who successfully complete the internship program. In addition to the scholarship, Vision New America provides financial assistance in the form of transportation stipends and fee waivers (see Program Highlights).

### ***What are the eligibility requirements to apply?***

Vision New America will consider high school and college students of all ages. In addition, college students who will be graduating in 2007 will be considered for admission.

Freshman and sophomore high school students are admitted into the program each year. However, they are not eligible to receive college credit for completing the leadership development program.

### ***What qualities is Vision New America looking for in an applicant?***

All students will be considered for admission. Past students have had GPA's ranging from 2.5 to 4.0 and above. A candidate does not have to have previous experience working in politics or government. However, students must display a strong desire to learn and grow.

Vision New America seeks a diverse class of interns each year. In addition, training is provided to prepare students for their internship work. Therefore, all students are encouraged to apply.

### ***Is there a cost associated with becoming an intern with Vision New America?***

There is a \$100 enrollment fee for students who are accepted into Vision New America. There are also costs associated with the training program ranging from \$25-\$296. All fees are waived for qualifying low-income students (applying is easy, see Financial Assistance and Scholarship information below).

### ***Do I have to take APALI?***

Successful completion of APALI is a mandatory requirement of Vision New America. Only students who have already taken APALI in the past are not required to retake the course.

### ***Whats the difference between the Public Health and Policy Internship Program and the Public Policy Internship Program?***

The Public Health and Policy Internship Program focuses more specifically on healthcare related issues. The program is intended for students who are interested in pursuing a career in a healthcare related field. The program will help students become better prepared to be health advocates, providers, and policy makers.

## **Financial Assistance and Scholarship**

Vision New America provides numerous scholarships, stipends, and fee waivers to make its programs accessible to students from all financial backgrounds.

**Scholarship:** *All students* who complete the internship requirements receive a scholarship (see Program Highlights)

**Transportation Stipend** *Qualifying students* receive up to \$120 for mileage and parking

**Fee Waivers** *Qualifying students* receive up to \$396 in enrollment and tuition fee waivers

**How to Apply:** To apply for a fee waiver, simply attach your parent's latest Income Tax form when submitting an application (such as a 1040 or 1040EZ form).

**Note:** If you are no longer listed as a dependent on your parents Income Tax form, you must submit your own Income Tax form.

# VISION NEW AMERICA

Providing internship opportunities and civic leadership development for high school and college students

## Program Information Meetings

### College

Tuesday, November 28 San Jose, CA  
*For more information and to RSVP, send e-mail to  
alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org*

Wednesday, November 29 San Jose, CA  
*For more information and to RSVP, send e-mail to  
alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org*

### High School

Tuesday, November 28 San Jose, CA  
*For more information and to RSVP, send e-mail to  
alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org*

Wednesday, November 29 San Jose, CA  
*For more information and to RSVP, send e-mail to  
alanmiyakawa@visionnewamerica.org*

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