What is the virtual internship?
The IHS Virtual Internship is a new initiative and partnership with the US Department of State to increase future recruitment opportunities for IHS and expand opportunities to youth. The virtual internship will serve as part of the Department of State's Virtual Student Foreign Service. The IHS Virtual Internship will bring on talented youth from across the nation to work on exciting projects to uphold the mission of the Indian Health Service.

What are the student benefits of the IHS Virtual Internship?
There are many exciting benefits of the Virtual Internship and some of the key benefits are:

- Course Credit
- Mentorship
- Networking
- Low Cost
- Flexible

What are the agency and program benefits of the IHS Virtual Internship?
There are many exciting benefits of the Virtual Internship and some of the key benefits are:

- Cost Effective (elInterns are unpaid)
- Flexible
- No cost to the agency
- Minimal bureaucracy (MOU's are not required nor encouraged)
- Flexible
What do eInterns work on?

The possibilities are endless! The program is designed to allow flexibility to the programs to create the projects. Keep in mind, eInterns won't have access to any IHS systems and they work remotely so projects should be something they work on from anywhere. Some examples of projects include:

- Research
- Video Creation
- Mobile App Testing
- Data Analysis
- Speech Writing
- Blog Writing
- Graphic Design
- Social Media
- ...And More!

How are eInterns hired and who does the work? Is it HR? Is it my office?

One of the great benefits of the program is the platform. All interested programs should submit their projects directly to the Virtual Student Foreign Service (VSFS) site. The VSFS staff will upload those projects into USAJobs.gov and students can then apply and the VSFS will send those that selected your project to you so you can make your selection.

What other federal agencies currently participate in the program?

With over 3,600 applications accept each year and about 800 eInterns, federal agencies are realizing the benefits of having virtual interns. Some federal agencies include:

- National Institutes of Health
- National Library of Medicine
- US Department of Health & Human Services
- US Department of Agriculture
- National Park Service
- Central Intelligence Agency
- US Department of Energy
- National Science Foundation
- Department of Veteran Affairs
- Department of Defense
- ...And Many More!
I'd like to participate, what should I do?

Submitting projects for eInterns are simple. Here are the major deadlines:

- **April-May**: Begin thinking about and developing projects for your eInterns. (See 'Virtual Internship Examples' Workbook)
- **May 1-June 10**: Visit vsfs.state.gov to submit your projects
- **July 2-26**: Student will visit and apply to projects on USAJobs.gov
- **August 1-31**: Program review applications, conduct interviews, and request information
- **September**: eInterns begin virtual internships
- **December**: VSFS Staff conduct mid-year check-ins with students and supervisors
- **May**: Most virtual internships end

Is there a limit to the number or projects or eInterns I can request?

There are no limits on the number of eInterns you can apply for. Just consider who will supervise their work.

I'd like additional information on the Virtual Internship, where can I find it?

There are many exciting benefits of the Virtual Internship and some of the key benefits are:

- Virtual Student Foreign Service Project Examples
- IHS Student Opportunities Page
- IHS Native Youth Site
- Virtual Student Foreign Service Supervisor Handbook
- Virtual Student Foreign Service Website

**CONTACTS:**

IHS Liaison Minette Galindo- Minette.Galindo@ihs.gov  
Bridget Roddy-RoddyBL@state.gov  
Nora Dempsey-DempseyN@state.gov