ISP POLICY SCHOLARS

Welcome to the ISP Policy Scholars Program. Policy is more than words on a page. It is a process, and the best way to understand a process is to take part in it.

As a scholar in training, you build your practice by completing the policy experiences listed below. Each one earns points and develops one or more of the six core competencies. Orientation and installation are required and carry no points. **Reach 12 points and you will be formally installed as an ISP Policy Scholar.**

Everything can be completed from wherever you are. Choose the experiences that fit your interests and your schedule.

Points	Policy practice	Competency
Required	**Attend orientation** *September 30 or October 1*	
1	Join a live ISP Policy Scholars training session *Maximum 4 trainings*	A B C D E F
Required	Sit down one-on-one with your scholar advisor *Maximum 1. However, you can meet with your advisor more than once.*	
1	Watch policy happen in real time. Sit in on a legislative hearing, city council session, school board meeting, or town hall anywhere in your state. Can be in person or virtual. *Maximum 2*	B C D E F
1	Cast your ballot, or help others cast theirs through voter registration, education, or turnout work *Maximum 2*	D E F
1	Reach out directly to an elected official about an issue you care about *Maximum 1*	A B C D E F
2	Answer a community or student organization's call to action through canvassing, phone banking, a petition drive, public testimony, coalition support, or similar organizing work, then write up what you did and what you took from it *Demonstrations, marches, rallies, and direct action do not qualify. Maximum 2*	B C D E F
2	Draft a policy alert clear enough to publish *Maximum 1*	A B C F
2	Build a visual companion to your policy alert that carries the argument on its own *Maximum 1*	A B C

Points	Policy practice	Competency
1	Take an issue to a public audience through an op-ed, letter to the editor, or press release *Maximum 1*	A B C D E F
1	Pitch your issue out loud in ninety seconds to someone who could act on it *Maximum 1*	A B C
1	Interview someone who has moved policy, and write up what worked, what stalled, and why *Proposed addition. Maximum 1*	A C D F
2	Analyze a live bill in your state or in Congress. Who gains, who is left out, and who can still change it *Proposed addition. Maximum 1*	A B F
1	Propose an experience of your own, cleared with us in advance *Demonstrations and direct action cannot be approved. Maximum 2*	
Required	**Installation as an ISP Policy Scholar** *Date for ceremony TBD.* ***Program must be completed by April 16th.***	

Core competencies

A	Translation and Dissemination
B	Racial Equity and Anti-Oppression
C	Advocacy and Organizing
D	Political Efficacy
E	Electoral Activism
F	Legislative Engagement

A note on demonstrations

Public demonstrations, marches, rallies, and direct action do not count toward any requirement in this program and cannot be approved as a proposed experience. This is not a judgment about their role in social change. It reflects risks to your safety and your legal standing that the program is not positioned to take on your behalf. Scholars remain free to take part in such activities on their own, separate from this program.