**COHORT COMMON APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

Below is a list of questions listed in our digital application. These questions are being provided in this format so that you may draft your responses in advance of submitting them in the digital form. All final applications MUST be submitted through the digital application form.

**BACKGROUND**

This section helps the selection committee better understand what experiences you bring to this potential internship opportunity. It is a chance for you to show how you are prepared for this experience in a diversity of ways, and elaborate on your desire to make change for the common good.

* 3 Meaningful Experiences—How have you grown?

The selection committee is interested in how you have taken advantage of and grown from opportunities and experiences in the past. Please describe three significant volunteer experiences, paid work experiences, travel, extra-curricular activities, and/or academic projects/programs.

Please limit your responses to 50-100 words per experience. Please title each experience, include any organizations involved, the location of the experience, the dates, a description of activities, and what you learned.

* How do you define social impact? How have you tried to cultivate social impact leadership in your life so far? (200 word limit)
* At DCSI we believe that failures are opportunities for learning and growth. Tell us about a time when you failed and how you handled it. (300 word limit)

**SKILLS**

In order to best place you within a predesigned cohort internship, it's imperative that the selection committee understand what skills and talents you possess. Please be specific and exhaustive so, if you are selected, you are placed in the best fit internship.

* Please list your language skills and level of proficiency
* What specific skills or talents will you bring to this opportunity? Please describe at least 3. We are looking for soft skills not listed on your resume (eg. teamwork, flexibility) AND/OR hard skills (eg. coding, Photoshop) that you think will be particularly relevant to this experience. (200 word limit)
* What specific skills would you like to develop through this internship experience? Note, while we will do our best to match you with a role that is most conducive to these skills, all the internships we offer provide plenty of opportunity for growth and learning. (200 word limit)

**MOTIVATION AND GOALS**

At DCSI, we're always asking students "What is your why?" It's helpful for the selection committee to fully understand your motivation and interest in gaining social impact changemaking experience.

* Why do you feel it is important for you to pursue this service based learning opportunity? (200 word limit)
* DCSI views internships as pre-professional learning experiences. DCSI Interns are encouraged to structure their internship to facilitate personal and/or professional growth. How do you hope this internship will inform your personal and/or professional development? (200 word limit)

**WORK ENVIRONMENT**

Work environments and/or work activities in some of our internship placements can be particularly intense experiences. Working with some of our partners may involve direct contact with individuals experiencing severe trauma, addiction, mental health issues, and other factors that require a high level of empathy and understanding. This can happen both through the work you'll be doing or by nature of the neighborhoods our partners are located in.

We also have internships addressing a variety of social issues, some of which you may not be comfortable engaging with such as [harm reduction](https://hri.global/what-is-harm-reduction/) or reproductive health.

The questions below will help us determine the best fit for placements. **There are no wrong answers and this will not affect acceptance to the program.**

* Below, please speak to your level of comfort interacting directly with high risk individuals experiencing trauma and or operating in impoverished neighborhoods.
* Please list any social issues you would not be comfortable engaging with or type "N/A" if there aren't any.

**COHORT SELECTION**

This application allows you to apply for all of the cohort programs that interest you. Please indicate which programs you'd like to apply for below and complete the requisite essays.

BOSTON COMMUNITY HEALTH COHORT

* Boston Essay-How do you define community health and why do you think it is an important social impact issue? (200 words)

SAN FRANCISCO SOCIAL IMPACT INNOVATION COHORT

* San Francisco Essay - What is an example of innovative social impact you have seen, and why do you think it is both innovative and successful? (200 words)

PHILADELPHIA POVERTY ALLEVIATION COHORT

* Philadelphia Essay- When we consider the intersections of many aspects of social impact work, poverty often remains at the center. What ignites your passion about tackling this crucial, but challenging issue? (200 words)