

ADVOCACY INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



PROSPECTUS
October 2011 – December 2012



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY STUDIES
Serenity Complex, Ramnagar Colony, Pashan, Pune 411 021, MH, India



ABOUT NCAS

The National Centre for Advocacy Studies (NCAS) is a social change resource centre that aims to strengthen people centred and rights based advocacy in order to empower advocates and facilitate the creation of a just and humane society. Though the focus of its activities is in India and the rest of South Asia, NCAS is emerging as a premier centre for people centred advocacy throughout the Global South.

NCAS works as a collective of activists, researchers, public interest lawyers, journalists and subject experts. It attempts to support and strengthen people-centred advocacy through capacity development programmes, research and documentation, media advocacy and support to various people's campaigns. As part of its capacity development programmes, NCAS has initiated an Advocacy Internship Programme since July 1999.

ADVOCACY INTERNSHIP

Advocacy Internship is a programme that grooms young and dedicated professionals who are committed to social activism. It seeks to cater to the needs of current campaigns for social justice. The internship programme undertakes to enrich the participants with a political perspective, knowledge base and skills required for effective public advocacy.

OBJECTIVES

- To create a cadre of social advocates who have knowledge, skills and sensitivities to pursue social activism.
- To prepare people's advocates who would promote organised actions to influence public policies and to effect sustainable attitudinal and behavioural change in the society.

CURRICULUM

A multidisciplinary curriculum and syllabus spread over 15 months focuses on the following subjects:

- Understanding of the Indian Society, Polity, Economy
- Issues in New Social Movements
- Concepts and Practices of Advocacy
- Approaches to Social Change
- Contemporary Human Rights Activism
- Policy Analysis
- Strategic Planning
- Development Communication
- Research
- Campaign Building and Networking

VISION

NCAS is a pro-active learning organisation that believes in:

- a society without poverty, injustice and discrimination,
- where every person and community can realize Human Rights to live with dignity,
- working towards a people-centered participatory, transparent, accountable and just governance.

MISSION


NCAS seeks to create an enabling environment for social action groups, social change agents and citizens to:

- get access to democratic institutions;
- effectively advocate the rights of the marginalised sections;
- empower marginalised sections, including tribals, Dalits, minorities, women, and labourers in the unorganized sector.



FUNCTION

As a social change resource centre, NCAS endeavours to:

- strengthen the capacity of people and social action groups to advocate on issues of basic rights and public interests;
 - facilitate democratic processes; address capacity building, information, research and campaign needs.
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METHODS

NCAS provides facilities and environment conducive for a positive learning and working experience. It is the responsibility of the interns to make the best use of the environment and facilities. Greater emphasis is laid on the following methods of learning:

- Self learning
- Interactive collective learning
- Learning through field experience
- Lectures
- Seminars / Workshops
- Tutorials
- Assignments/Term papers

DURATION

The Advocacy Internship Programme is for 15 months including classwork, fieldwork and field placement with community based organizations and/or people's movements.

FACULTY

The faculty for the programme comprises experts in different fields including academicians, social activists, civil society leaders, and lawyers and media persons.

EVALUATION

A comprehensive evaluation of the interns is done as a continuous process based on an agreed Assessment Profile.

EXPECTATIONS FROM INTERNS

The interns are expected to contribute to the body of progressive debate on 'People-centered Advocacy' that NCAS is engaged in. During the course work, the interns are encouraged and expected to take leadership and plan and manage concrete efforts such as workshops/media documentation/human rights activism.

ELIGIBILITY

The Advocacy Internship Programme is open to any person below the age of 25 who intends to understand the world in all its complexities, has a strong social conscience, and values social commitment more than individual selves. Openness to learn, receptivity to new ideas, and keenness to take up challenges are seen as most important criteria.

Preferred educational qualification is a postgraduate degree in any discipline with some experience with a social action/human rights/consumer rights group. Educational qualifications can be relaxed for deserving candidates.



SELECTION OF INTERNS

Filled-in application form alongwith an essay should reach NCAS by 6th July 2011.

After preliminary screening of applications, shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in a Youth Camp in Pune in September. Final selection of the candidates will be done after this camp on the basis of potential to work with people, competence, leadership qualities, vision and motivation to learn. The next Advocacy Internship Programme will start from October 2011.

STIPEND

Each intern will be given a monthly stipend towards living expenses for a period of 12 months. NCAS takes the responsibility to negotiate with the field organization for the boarding, lodging and a reasonable stipend amount during the field placement.

For Further details, visit our website at

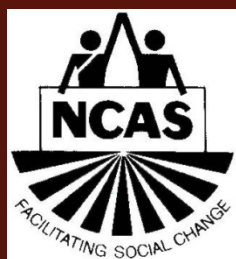
www.ncasindia.org

or write to:

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