

**Call for Applications for paid undergraduate internship
Birmingham Immersive Community Empowerment Program (BICEP)**

Are you passionate about human rights, social justice, and interested in gaining experience in organizations working in this space? Are you interested in developing new professional skills, connections, and networks? This internship is for you! The [UAB Institute for Human Rights \(IHR\)](#) is looking for four interns who would like to be part of the inaugural BICEP cohort.

Description

The Birmingham Immersive Community Empowerment Program (BICEP), is a collaboration between [IHR](#), the [David Mathews Center for Civic Life \(DMC\)](#), and four community organizations, namely [Lakeshore Foundation](#), the [Offender Alumni Association \(OAA\)](#), the [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of Alabama Women’s Rights Program](#), and the [Alabama Interfaith Refugee Partnership \(ALIRP\)](#). It offers UAB undergraduate students the opportunity to engage in immersive civic learning and capacity-building endeavors for underrepresented and underserved communities in Alabama by engaging in **a two semester, paid internship** in one of these organizations. In addition to working at these community organizations, students will enroll in *HRT 485: Professional Internship in Human Rights* to gain new skills, to reflect, and to network with other students interested in human rights topics and work in the non-profit sector. The internship is **open to ALL undergraduate students** at UAB.

Students have the opportunity to work with one of the organizations mentioned above. They will participate in the following activities:

Community Organization	Supervisor	Student responsibilities
Lakeshore Foundation	Amy Rauworth <i>Head of Lakeshore Advocacy Team and Chief of Development and Strategic Partnerships</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about people with disabilities and social, environmental, and physical barriers • facilitate conversations around disability and voter access • support Governor’s Disability Policy Summit and similar type projects • organize public education programs • learn about the legislative process
Offender Alumni Association	Dena Dickerson <i>Chief Operating Officer and Program Director</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about the criminal justice system and reentry in Alabama • public education on reentry • collect stories that can be used for website and advocacy • engage community with regards to voting access • help organize the Reentry Simulation • learn about the legislative process

American Civil Liberties Union	Courtney Andrews <i>ACLU of Alabama Women's Rights Policy Strategist</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about maternal health and women's issues in Alabama • organize and lead community listening sessions on the maternal health crisis and maternity care deserts in rural Alabama • collect stories that can be used for policy proposals • Learn about policy priorities and the legislative process
Alabama Interfaith Refugee Partnership	Meredith Gartin <i>Board President and Head of Education and Advocacy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about refugees and asylum seekers and the resettlement process • Engage in PhotoVoice project highlighting the experiences of young refugees and asylum seekers in the Birmingham area • Support public programming and community education

What You Will Learn:

- Professional skills like grant writing, stakeholder engagement, and networking
- Organize events, conferences, and meetings
- Learn about structural and systemic issues facing underrepresented populations
- New scientific methods and research
- Ways to engage with communities
- Learn about public policy processes and how to bring about social change

What We Require:

- Ability to dedicate 5-8 hours per week to your assigned community-based organization
- Enroll in *HRT 485: Professional Internship in Human Rights* in the spring semester 2025
- Interest and passion for human rights and related topics
- UAB undergraduate student, major and year of study open
- Strong writing and communication skills
- Willing to attend IHR and David Mathews Center events and meetings and become part of the Human Rights Lab
- Interest in nonprofit management and community development
- Willingness to present your work at the Undergraduate Expo and in a BICEP symposium in the spring
- For the Alabama Interfaith Refugee Partnership position, knowledge of Spanish is a plus!

What we offer:

1. The position begins in September.
2. You will receive a stipend of \$1,500 for your efforts. The stipend will be distributed in portions of \$500 at the beginning, middle, and successful completion of the program.

3. You will also write a mini-grant proposal on behalf of your organization for an additional \$500.
4. Mentorship throughout the internship.
5. Work in a diverse and enthusiastic team.
6. Primary access to speakers, visitors, and human rights experts.
7. Hands on experience in non-profit management, community engagement, and professional skills

To apply:

Please send your resume, unofficial transcript, writing sample (could be a paper you wrote for a class), and statement of interest (1-2 double spaced pages, detailing your interest in BICEP and the organization(s) you would like to work with) to Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter, Director of the Institute for Human Rights, at tkreuter@uab.edu by September 2, 2024. Please use “BICEP internship” as the subject line of your email.