



MAC CONNECT: WASHINGTON D.C.

MARCH 13-15, 2017

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APPLICATIONS DUE: **FRIDAY, NOV. 11 at**

4:30pm

OVERVIEW

Macalester College will offer ten Macalester sophomore/junior/senior students the opportunity to explore careers and connections with Washington D.C. area alumni in March 2017. This trip is made possible through collaboration of Macalester Career Development Center (CDC), Alumni Relations, and Advancement Offices.

This trip benefits Macalester as it offers a collaborative opportunity for alumni to share their expertise with current students, and students to serve as ambassadors of the College. The CDC's focus for the trip is to assist Macalester students to:

- Gain exposure to diverse career fields and particular organizations prevalent in D.C. across the public and private spheres. Previous site visits have included legislative offices, public policy think tanks, international NGO's, consulting firms, research organizations, governmental agencies, tech start-ups, education and social services, and museums.
- Enrich skills and confidence in conducting informational interviews, and diverse networking environments
- Develop and cultivate connections with alumni in areas of interest to sustain contact following the trip

This trip is for individuals who are ready to challenge themselves to network, conduct informational interviews, and grow in their confidence in navigating diverse professional environments. Individuals will be expected to participate in several site visits each day and receptions in the evening. The last day of the trip will be flexible for individuals to schedule and conduct their own informational interviews.

A prior participant of MacConnect D.C. reported:

"One of the greatest things I left with was confidence. When I took the trip as a senior, I knew that I would return to DC. As a result of the trip, I felt more prepared to start the process of setting myself up for life post-Mac. Also, because I was largely responsible for setting up meetings and informational interviews myself, there was an added sense of empowerment during the trip. I enjoyed the trip because it gave me a sneak peek of the alums in the area, as well as spending time with other Mac students who I may not have otherwise had the chance to connect with."

This trip will feature alumni from a wide range of fields including

- Legislative Offices
- Public Policy
- Research organizations
- Government
- Education & Social Services
- Tourism

DATES & COST

Arrive Monday, March 13. Events are scheduled beginning at Noon on Monday, March 13 and go through Tuesday, March 14. Hotel will be covered through Tuesday night, so that participants can take advantage of an additional free day to do extended networking, get to know the D.C. area, etc. However, students may schedule departure for Wednesday evening. Some students elect to stay on



for additional days, often identifying hostel accommodations.

Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to/from Washington D.C. Macalester will provide four nights hotel, ground transportation to events, and a majority of meals. Students are responsible for any meals not provided as a part of events, any transportation, or other costs for Wednesday, March 15 (a free day), and any personal expenditures. *If you are selected, and you anticipate the cost is prohibitive to your participation, please contact Kate Larson.*

ELIGIBILITY

The program supports 10 students. Participants are selected through an application process. Applications are reviewed by CDC staff. Participants will be selected based on strength of application, match to event purpose, and overall group composition.

In order to spread out the immersive experiences offered through Macalester to as many students as possible, students who have not participated in other MacConnect events (San Francisco or Washington, DC) or in the Economics department trip to New York, or the Geography/American Studies trip to Seattle will be given preference. *Also, in efforts to retain the opportunity for students who have yet to secure full-time employment, students who have confirmed job offers upon graduation should not apply.*

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Sophomore/Junior/Senior student
- Good standing with the College (academic and conduct)
- Demonstrated efforts and proficiency in conducting informational interviewing and networking
- Ability to positively represent the College, engage in professional/social interactions confidently.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, Nov. 11 at 4:30pm. Only complete applications will be considered. Selected participants will be notified via email no later than Friday, Dec. 2.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Fill out and submit [the application form](#).
2. Within the form, submit names and contact info for two Macalester faculty or staff members who will be contacted by the CDC to serve as references.
3. Submit a **current resume**, **unofficial transcript**, and **statement of interest** as detailed in the application form to klarson7@macalester.edu. You must include "MacConnect DC 2016" in the email subject line.

Statement of interest

Please electronically submit a statement of interest as a separate document to Kate Larson by Friday, Nov. 11 by 4:30 pm. You must include "MacConnect DC 2016" in the email subject line.

In no longer than one page, explain how you personally are going to use the opportunities from this trip to further your professional goals. Please write in the first person. In your answer be sure you talk about:

- i. What are your goals for this trip?
- ii. How will those goals fit into your longer-term plans?
- iii. What steps have you taken thus far to engage in professional networking and informational interviewing. Describe your experience conducting informational interviews,



- and participating in networking. Where do you think you have room to improve?
- iv. Feel free to add any other info important for the selection committee.

Questions? Contact Kate Larson at klarson7@macalester.edu