

# **Morris K. Udall Foundation Native American Internship**

## **Overview of Expectations**

### **What is the educational goal of the program?**

- The Foundation program materials state:
  - The NAI gives students an opportunity to learn about the federal government from the inside
  - To observe government decision-making processes on a daily basis
- Practically speaking, the goals are:
  - Learn the authorization process
  - Learn the appropriation process
  - Build a network of contacts

### **How does the Foundation assist interns in the learning process?**

- Matching intern skills to the needs of the offices in which they are placed
- An orientation to Washington D.C. and the program
- Organized briefings about the basics of budgeting and the legislative process
- Meetings with Washington D.C. policy makers
- Ongoing advice and counsel about professional and personal issues

### **What is the best result of an internship?**

- An intern who has learned the basics of the process
- An intern who feels fulfilled by the experience
- An intern has been positive about the learning experience throughout the internship
- An intern who has built a useful network of contacts
- An intern who pursues using this knowledge to better his/her tribe

### **What are the characteristics of the most successful students?**

- Well-developed research and writing skills
- Flexibility in adjusting to a new environment and learning "how it really works"
- Has initiative, is mature, and demonstrates responsibility
- Ability to organize time during an intensive 10-week period
- Can work well with the group dynamics of dormitory life
- Understands parts of the legislative process may be distasteful to them, but wishes to learn as much as possible anyway
- Understands that everyone must participate in meetings and briefings