



Summer 2021 Legal, Policy, and Technologist Intern Writing Sample Prompt

Thank you for your interest in spending a summer with the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT). As part of our internship application, we request writing samples that are more reflective of the work you will be expected to do. We write a lot of [blog posts](#) here at CDT, and we also ask our interns to draft at least one over the summer.

Please write a blog post analyzing one or two implications of the coronavirus pandemic for the issue areas CDT works on. Your blog post should do the following:

- briefly explain the issue to your audience
- illustrate in more detail one or two of the relevant legal, policy, or technical considerations
- advocate for a particular policy or approach
- have a title and should not exceed 2 pages, 1.5 spacing.

Please choose one of the following issue areas as a lens for analyzing the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. **Your blog post should pick one angle to focus on. Please do not attempt to cover all of these issue areas:**

- Constitutional issues (such as those that might arise under the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th or 14th Amendments) *please just pick one*
- Data privacy and management policies
- Competition policy (eg., competition between providers or competition for network resources)
- Standardization or interoperability
- Accessibility
- Public safety

We recognize that we are asking you to complete a difficult task. Many, if not most of you, have never written a blog post. This is expected. Use this as an opportunity to practice because writing, including blogging, is a central component of our policy work. Do not stress over this assignment. What is important is your effort, but you probably shouldn't spend much more time writing than you would spend composing a thoughtful cover letter. We recommend no more than 10 hours.

Some tips: read some of our recent [blog posts](#) to get a feel for what you're expected to produce; think about who you want your audience to be, and brevity is the beauty of the blog post. If you

need help getting started you can review [our recent work](#) on the coronavirus or articles on the topic on news sites like [The Verge](#), [Ars Technica](#), [TechDirt](#). Pro-tip: if you're using footnotes you've gone astray—blogs tend to hyperlink directly to their sources. If you have any questions about this writing sample request please feel free to email internapps@cdt.org.