The Department of Education implements state education policy. It has many units, each offering a unique internship experience.

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Office of the Chief Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Manage and coordinate all CDE activities and functions  
**Student interests:** general education policy, education administration, program administration and oversight, education strategy, CalPERS, State Board of Education, local school district oversight, education governance, education funding

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Government Affairs Unit  
[http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/lad.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/lad.asp)  
Responsible for all CDE activity relating to state and federal legislation – essentially, CDE’s lobbyists  
**Student interests:** general education policy, Legislature, lobbying

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Communications Unit  
[http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/cd.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/cd.asp)  
Oversee all CDE media and public relations  
**Student interests:** general education policy, media relations, marketing, writing

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Child Development Division  
[http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/cdd.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/cdd.asp)  
Provide resources and support to those in the child-development community, including early education programs  
**Student interests:** early childhood development, pre-schools, child care, academic achievement, parenting skills, Native American education programs

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
English-Learner Support Division  
[http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/els.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/els.asp)  
Provide support for programs aimed at English-learners  
**Student interests:** ESL education policy, immigration, underserved communities, ESL programs, ESL students
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Charter Schools Division
http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/csd.asp
Promote and authorize charter schools
Student interests: charter-school policy, charter-school research, education innovation, local education policy, student achievement

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Assessment Development & Administration Division
http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/ada.asp
Develops and administers all statewide assessment programs
Student interests: standardized testing (STAR), student achievement, assessment policy, assessment and ESL students

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Special Education Division
http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/or/sed.asp
Provide resources and information for individuals with special needs
Student interests: special-needs education policy, autism, equal access to education

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES: CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE
Student Services and Special Programs Division
http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices.aspx
Provide assistance on student access and equity, including grant programs
Student interests: community colleges, student access, military veteran re-entry programs, student equity, textbook affordability, UC and CSU transfer programs

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES: CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE
Academic Affairs Division
http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/AcademicAffairs.aspx
Design and review community college curriculum and instructional support
Student interests: community colleges, general education policy, California Master Plan on Higher Education, adult education, ESL issues, coursework

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES: CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE
Workforce and Economic Development
http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/WorkforceandEconDev.aspx
Develop policies and programs to prepare the 21st Century workforce
Student interests: career planning, workforce issues, skills gap, student achievement, career education practices

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
http://www.csba.org/
Non-profit advocate for elected school-board officials and county offices of education
Student interests: local education policy, education governance, school-district administration
CALIFORNIA BUSINESS FOR EDUCATION EXCELLENCE
http://www.cbrt.org/education/
Non-profit arm of the California Business Roundtable (see Business) that advocates for academic preparedness of the California workforce
Student interests: education policy, workforce development, business issues related to education and technology education

STUDENTS FIRST
http://www.studentsfirst.org/
Education reform non-profit headed by Michelle Rhee
Student interests: education policy, education reform, charter schools, school choice, parental involvement in schools, education funding

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
State Governmental Affairs Office
http://www.ucop.edu/state-governmental-relations/
Advocates on behalf of the University of California on a wide range of issues that affect the university – essentially, UC’s lobbyists
Student interests: higher-education policy, University of California, institutions of higher learning, California Master Plan for Higher Education, relationship between UC and state and local governments

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Student Association
http://ucsa.org/
Non-profit student coalition that advocates for UC undergraduates and graduate students
Student interests: higher education, higher-education policy, UC governance, UC tuition and fees, UC access, class availability, affordability

STRATEGIC EDUCATION SERVICES
http://strategicadvocates.com/
Education lobbying firm that represents textbook publishers, local K-12 and community college districts, education-related foundations and teacher unions
Student interests: general education policy, teacher relations, data analysis related to education, AVID programs, local education issues in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Santa Ana and Santa Monica

CALIFORNIA CHARTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION
http://www.calcharters.org/
Advocates for charter schools and provides resources for educators and parents on starting and/or finding a charter school
Student interests: education policy, education reform, charter schools, education funding