

Who sponsors the CIPYML?

CIPYML is sponsored by the Philippine House of Representatives and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It is managed by USAID's Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) Program.



Congressional Internship Program for Young Mindanao Leaders USAID's Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) Program

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Congressional Internship Program for Young Mindanao Leaders (CIPYML)

Growth with Equity in Mindanao III (GEM 3) Program

Educating future leaders through hands-on experience in legislation and policy formulation.



What is CIPYML?

CIPYML stands for the “Congressional Internship Program for Young Mindanao Leaders.” The Program offers opportunities for young people from Mindanao’s conflict-affected communities to undertake internships in the Philippine House of Representatives, where they will have the opportunity to observe and gain first-hand experience in public policy formulation. The internships have a four-month duration and are offered to recent graduates of colleges and universities located in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and other conflict-affected areas of Mindanao (CAAM) who have the potential, in the future, to assume leadership positions in business and government.

The Goals of CIPYML:

- To enhance the commitment of young people within the ARMM and CAAM to democratic values and institutions by increasing their knowledge of the process of policy formulation and legislative processes;
- To expand the pool of young men and women in Mindanao who have a broad understanding of national issues and democratic governance.
- To provide congressional representatives and congressional staff increased opportunity to interact with articulate young representatives of ARMM and other conflict-affected areas of Mindanao.

What does the Intern gain?

- Hands-on experience in national policy formulation and governance.
- Practical knowledge, skills and perspectives on policy development, policy analysis and advocacy, program and project planning and management experience.
- The opportunity to interact with members of the House of Representatives, the Senate, and other leaders.

Major CIPYML activities:

The activities of the interns include:

- Participation in a two-week introductory course on governance at the Mindanao State University in Marawi;
- Participation in specially-designed training programs covering various governance topics in Manila;
- Assignment to standing and special committees and subcommittees of the House of Representatives;
- Assignment to offices of selected members of Congress;
- Participation in field visits to national government agencies and local government offices;
- Participation in the preparation of special reports, policy studies and draft legislation;
- Attendance at legislative committee briefings and plenary sessions of Congress.

Who can apply?

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be less than 30 years of age;
- Possess at least a BS or BA degree from a college or university in the ARMM or other conflict-affected area in Mindanao;
- Reside in the ARMM or other conflict-affected area in Mindanao;
- Be able to articulate the concerns and aspirations of Mindanao’s Muslim community and other historically under-served groups residing in ARMM and neighboring CAAM.

What does the program provide?

- Round trip fare from the intern’s residence to Marawi and Manila;
- Lodging in Marawi and Manila;
- A daily stipend to cover the cost of food and local transportation;
- Accident and medical insurance;
- A certificate of completion for successful participants.

