

LIBERTY CORNER, N.J. (May 21, 2025) – Reflecting an organizational commitment to identify and develop the next generation of people seeking careers in golf, the USGA has selected 24 students to participate in the Pathways Internship Program during the 125th U.S. Open Championship in June.

The 10-day internship will be held on-site at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club and throughout Greater Pittsburgh. It is a component of the USGA's championship community engagement strategy, demonstrating the USGA's work for the good of the game and ensuring a lasting impact in the regions it serves. Supported by foundational sponsor Deloitte*, interns will be exposed to various career pathways in golf through job shadowing, networking with industry leaders, and professional development sessions.

"As Pathways enters its fourth year, we are not letting up on our commitment to provide opportunities for those interested in working in the game," said Mike Whan, USGA CEO. "The talent in this year's Pathways class represents a new generation, with a variety of skills and backgrounds that will help shape the future of the game. It's our responsibility to ensure these emerging leaders recognize the career opportunities that exist for them in golf."

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This year's program attracted a record-setting 750 applicants internationally, making for a highly competitive selection process. Hailing from 20 universities and representing 21 areas of study, those selected for the program have been identified as emerging talent and potential leaders that the USGA would like to expose to careers in golf.

Among the class are collegiate athletes and First Tee alumni, as well as individuals who have never been exposed to golf. The 2025 class also includes a visually impaired individual who competed in the 2024 U.S. Adaptive Open, and many inspiring individuals who are making an impact both inside and outside their classrooms. Interns are encouraged to embrace their experiences and perspectives when networking, participating in panel discussions, and engaging in scenario-based challenges.

A top sports event, the U.S. Open will provide an invaluable experience for interns looking to kickstart their sports careers. Through immersion into the operations and management, they will gain exposure to a broad range of job functions, including communications, technology, hospitality, ticketing, corporate partnerships, championship administration, course setup, and community engagement.

In addition to on-site programming at Oakmont Country Club, interns will engage with the broader Pittsburgh community through learning opportunities with the Western Pennsylvania Golf Association, Dick's Sporting Goods and local sports organizations.

Participants will spend a day at the local Deloitte office alongside Deloitte practitioners to better understand their own working styles using Business Chemistry and explore how trends in business and technology play out in the sports industry, particularly through the USGA relationship. Interns will also take time to prepare for the Pathways case study presentation – which will be held Saturday, June 14, in front of a forum of leaders from the USGA and its partners.

Through the USGA's relationship with NBC Sports and the NBCU Academy, participants learn about various careers in sports from a panel of industry experts and network with executives and leaders. Further support is provided by USGA partners Ally Financial, American Express, Cisco, Lexus, Peter Millar, Sentry Insurance, and Rolex.

What began as the Lee Elder Internship at the 2022 U.S. Open, the Pathways Internship has evolved into a key pillar of the USGA's career development programming, helping to identify talent and empower young people to pursue careers in golf.

"The USGA Pathways Internship was a turning point in my career. It helped me see the golf industry as a real option for me as I looked to transition from the world of education to working in sports," said Rob Davalos, 2023 Pathways intern

and now general manager of MNML Golf. “Prior to my experience, I didn’t realize the range of careers that existed within the game or feel confident that someone with little golf experience would be welcome. It’s all thanks to the USGA and the Southern California Golf Association for providing me with the networking opportunities that ultimately led me to my role with MNML Golf.”

Program alumni now hold full time positions across the golf and wider sports landscapes, including with the USGA, PGA Tour, NBCUniversal, Allied Golf Associations, Excel Sports Management and elsewhere. Four alumni have been selected to serve as peer leaders, providing interns with support and mentorship throughout their tenure.

The following students will participate in the 2025 Pathways Internship Program:

Name	School	Major(s)
Sean Bledsoe	Wabash College	Theater
Tyler Cashman	University of Richmond	Marketing
Corey Clark	Morehouse College	Business Administration
Ashton Corsey	Prairie View A&M	Business Management
Nyauni Crowelle	University of Central Florida	Kinesiology
Donovan Drummer	Arizona State University	Sports Business
Rami Fakih	Wayne State University	Business Administration
Sissi Hai	University of Pittsburgh	Marketing, Supply Chain Management
Francoise Hall	Howard University	Environmental Science
Caleb Kim	Villanova University	Accounting
Genesis Lewis	Pepperdine Law School	J.D.
Dakharee Mann	Slippery Rock University	Sports Management
Kayona McIntosh-Perkins	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	General Management
Christopher Mitchell Jr.	Clark Atlanta University	MBA, Finance and Sports & Entertainment
Zakiyyah Muhammad	Howard University	Political Science
Maria Ramos	University of Pennsylvania	Engineering
Iyanna Roach	Grand Canyon University	MBA, Marketing
Natalie Ryu	University of San Francisco	Political Science
Leland Sanders	Georgia Southern University	Sport Management
Ramon Sara	Syracuse University	Sport Management

Saloni Somia	Brown University	Business Economics, Biology
Gavin Weddington	Morehouse College	Economics
Molly White	University of Scranton	Communication
Angela Zhuo	The Ohio State University	Sport Industry

The Pathways interns are among many directly benefiting from enrichment and learning opportunities on-site during the U.S. Open and throughout the year. The USGA annually funds more than 300 paid internships across the country, including nearly 200 interns who are taking part in this year's P.J. Boatwright Jr. Internship Program through the USGA's network of 57 Allied Golf Associations.

For more information about the Pathways Internship Program and the USGA's broader efforts to develop future generations in the game, visit usga.org.

*Please see www.deloitte.com/us/about for a detailed description of their legal structure.

About the USGA

The USGA is a mission-based golf organization whose purpose is to unify the golf community through handicapping and grassroots programs; to showcase the game's best talent through the U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open Presented by Ally and 13 other national championships and our museum; to provide unbiased global governance with The R&A through the playing, equipment and Amateur Status rules; and to advance issues important to golf's future, with a focus on driving sustainability, accessibility and inclusion. As a nonprofit association, our work and our team are driven to act for the good of the game. For more, visit usga.org.

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<https://mediacenter.usga.org/press-releases?item=123137>