

INTERN SUCCESS STORY



KUMARI SONI

My passion for public health and public policy served as the driving force behind my decision to pursue an internship at the Opioid Abatement Fund Council (O AFC) at the Comptroller's office.

Drug-related issues are common across various countries of the world. However, the rate at which these issues are growing within the United States is alarming. Driven by the desire to understand the drug crisis, I carried out a brief course project at UT San Antonio where I correlated the impact of the drug crisis with the macroeconomic factors across the United States. This project helped me to feel informed on the crisis and recognize how important it is for policymakers to make data-driven decisions to effectively tackle this epidemic. This project became an inspiration for me when I was looking for internship opportunities.

When I found the internship opportunity with the O AFC at the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, I realized I had to apply.

I really loved the workplace culture at Comptroller's office where they cherish the diversity.

From my first day, I was amazed by how helpful people were in the office. My department ensured that I got to know people and how to access to the various learning resources available. We set up our regular check-ins, and as the time passed, I grew confident in my interactions. I really liked that my team members cared about my all-round growth. Toward the end of the internship, I felt very much at home while working at the Comptroller's office.

What stood out for me was the inclusive environment; I felt empowered to be my true self every day. This atmosphere encouraged collaborating, innovating and valuing diverse perspectives, which is what I think makes this office truly exceptional.



Kumari Soni

"The Path to a 'Dreams Come True' Career: Impacting Society Through Data at the Texas Comptroller's Office"

I came from a very different world where getting an education for a female child was a privilege.

My mother emphasized that when I was young, she never had the chance to attend school, whereas I have the privilege and opportunity to receive an education. She encouraged me to use this privilege to make a positive impact on society, and I believe that the Comptroller's office is an excellent platform for achieving that goal.

Accepting the job offer from the Texas Comptroller's office was a "dreams come true feeling" for me. The ultimate source of work satisfaction lies in making a difference. My role involves conducting data-driven analyses that directly assist policymakers. The sense of fulfillment I derive from providing valuable insights is something that truly resonates with me as a data analyst.