

Ms. Jessica Nguyen is a Maryland Governor's Summer Internship Program Fellow. She is a rising third-year at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), where she studies Government & Politics, Public Policy, and Spanish. Born and raised in Silver Spring by a family of Vietnamese refugees, Jessica's biggest motivations in life are to leverage her experiences with diversity and community building to contribute to a more equitable world.

Jessica's passion for social justice has driven her to work with several nonprofits dedicated to uplifting marginalized communities in Prince George's County to include The Maryland Family Literacy Program, and Nonprofit Prince George's County. More recently, she interned for Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) to write trauma-informed stories about the unique issues facing youth in the county's foster care system.

On campus, Jessica's love for the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has led her to become an active leader in AAPI student life. She is the incoming Vice President for UMCP's Asian American Student Union and previously served as the Director of Public Relations for UMCP's Filipino Cultural Association. This summer, she will be conducting research and raising awareness of the needs of women veterans, LGBTQ+ and veterans of color. She will be interviewing Women Veteran Program Managers from across the nation to inform the implementation and management of the Department's newly established Women Veterans/Inclusion Program.