



What is the NC Summer Policy Institute?

The NC Summer Policy Institute (NCSPI) is an initiative hosted by the NC Budget & Tax Center (BTC) that aims to foster the state’s next generation of public policy leaders. We bring together students and recent graduates who are rooted in the state to engage in a week of deep exploration of the North Carolina Landscape. You can learn more at <https://ncbudget.org/ncspi/>.

Since the program’s implementation, our event has served as a pipeline for participants to gain access to graduate programs, fellowship opportunities, and greater connections with leaders across the state. In our 2023 Impact report, we celebrate six years of the NCSPI program and five cohorts of leaders that have created a ripple effect of change throughout our networks and beyond.



Program Goals

Through our pipeline program, such as the Summer Policy Institute, we believe we can move closer to realizing our theory of change and living in a state where people can thrive!

Our theory of change sees the power of research and analysis as being only as good as it is validated by people’s experiences. Through our pipeline programs, we hope to build power by helping individuals make the connections to the economic conditions in North Carolina.



<p>Build</p>	<p>We want to build a network of people who have a collective understanding of the importance of economic justice in achieving more equitable policies in our state.</p>
<p>Inform</p>	<p>We want to provide people who engage in our programming with the tools, resources, and connections to deepen their knowledge in public policy engagement, state and local budgeting; revenue processes and policy.</p>
<p>Connect</p>	<p>We want to connect Individuals who are in the entry or semi-entry stages of engaging in public policy with other people in the public policy space to facilitate deeper engagement and understanding.</p>
<p>Cultivate</p>	<p>We want to cultivate a network of leaders who are committed to ensuring North Carolina has a legislator that makes public investments to achieve equitable outcomes that advances transformative policies.</p>

Highlights from 2022

Alumni Network
73

This year we grew our alumni network to 73 total participants who have gone through our program.

Over the past six years, NCSPI has garnered applicants from over 21 institutions across the state, including 7 private institutions, 15 public institutions, 2 women's colleges and 4 historically Black colleges & universities.

Schools
22

Leaders
107

We have engaged 107 leaders from different sectors across the state, including the public sector, the nonprofit sector, and business owners in North Carolina.

As the alumni network has grown over the past few years, we have invited back into the NCSPI space to shape and add to each year's program. In 2022, we had 7 alumni return as application reviewers, facilitators, policy project advisors, and more.

Cross Cohort
07



Alumni Highlight | Avra Janz

Avra is a alumni of our 2019 cohort! For NCSPI 2021 & 2022, Avra served as the session facilitator for the State of Eugenics Movie Screening. She is now getting a Ph.D. in Sociology and doing her dissertation on Eugenic Studies in North Carolina.

What are our Alumni saying?

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This was an excellent experience. I learned a great deal from the attendees, as well as the staff and speakers. My knowledge base about policy was expanded, as well as a renewed fervor to see social change. I am better for having attended. **L. Wesley '17**

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I am so grateful for my experience at NCSPI; I was unsure of what to expect when I got there, and I left feeling like I had gained so much. I grew on a professional level and the array of topics we covered allowed me to reaffirm what I was already interested in and discover new policy-related passions. **P. Upchurch '19**

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I enjoyed connecting with folks from all over NC at the orientation, and learn more from the leaders invited during the breakout sessions. It was great to get that 1on1 time to talk to these incredible leaders in NC and also get to learn more about the budget process and policy making in NC. **K. Marroquin '22**



Moving Ahead into 2023

Moving into 2023, we intend to further develop our connections with the NCSPI Alumni Network and continue to move toward a North Carolina where all people can thrive.