Overview
The Program in Practical Policy Engagement (P3E) at UM’s Ford School seeks to partner with public, non-profit and philanthropic sector organizations to create mutually beneficial engaged learning experiences for our students and faculty. One vehicle for creating these experiences is through the Student Research Assistant Initiative. The Initiative places current Ford School graduate and undergraduate students as part-time, fixed-term research assistants directly into selected partner organizations at no financial cost to the partner. Students are paid by P3E to provide professional-quality work on a specified project that is agreed to by the partner and the P3E director. The goal is for the student to provide a valuable contribution to the partner organization and receive a meaningful learning experience.

Eligibility
The Program in Practical Policy Engagement strategically selects a limited number of partner organizations that are committed to the goal of creating mutually beneficial engaged learning experiences. Partners should demonstrate how the student’s work will contribute to the organizations’ public policy goals. Partners that are already working with P3E on engaged learning and research experiences, or that have the potential to be long-term partners, will be given priority.

Expectations of P3E
P3E staff will work with a representative from the partner organization to agree upon the research assistant’s project scope. P3E will post the position, collect resumes/applications, and assist the partner in selecting the student. P3E will hire the selected student as a UM temp-hourly employee and pay the student $15/hour for up to 10 hours per week and up to 12 weeks. At the conclusion of the research assistant’s term, P3E will retain a copy of the student’s work product/deliverables. P3E staff will be available throughout the student’s engagement with the partner to assist in any management/oversight.

Expectations of Partner Organizations
Partner will work with P3E staff to design the project’s scope, select the student research assistant, meet with the research assistant at least once per week (either in person or by phone) throughout the term of the project, and provide constructive feedback and mentoring to the student. Partner will endeavor to create a positive, respectful learning
experience for the student. At the conclusion of the project, partner will complete a short evaluation survey for P3E.

**Application Process**
Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Interested organizations should contact the P3E director prior to submitting a formal application. The application should be emailed to bankc@umich.edu, indicating “Student Research Assistant Initiative application” in the subject line. The application should include:

- A brief description of the organization;
- A paragraph about the proposed work;
- An explanation of how the proposed work will advance the partner organization’s public policy goals; and
- A sketch of how the partner will support the student’s work.

Applicants are welcome to include additional attachments.

For more information, please contact P3E Director, Elisabeth Gerber (egerber@umich.edu, 734-647-4004).