

I have always had a passion for working in orbit to the government, as I believe this is the most realistic way to offer real help to the communities around us. In college I accomplished this by working in a grants department where I became accustomed to government protocols and data. Now that my college career is over, I want to continue to work in sectors that hold orbit to government- and Acumen's policy analysis offers an ideal opportunity for me to accomplish this. Furthermore, I have working experience with both SAS and StatA (as specified in Acumen's desired qualifications), and have an interest in learning more of both of these languages. Currently, I have more extensive use using StatA and R in comparison to SAS, but I would be more than happy to polish my skills on any of the languages I have experience with in order to better help the Acumen workplace. More than this, I would be enthusiastic at the opportunity to learn how to use more programs than just the ones I have listed on my resume as learning is a real passion for me. I also have enthusiasm for research when performing data analysis and I believe Acumen will help me to be able to fulfill this passion.

Over the course of the summer I conducted a project analyzing the potential impact of an expansion of a Florida policy and the possible consequences of this expansion. Coupled with this project was both an oral presentation and a 50 page report, showing that not only am I comfortable examining policy but I can provide real examples of prior work in this regard. The project was started from scratch, so all the data used was found in the public domain using census data and other academic research. This included analyzing census data to find affected groups of a policy, as well as using financial reports from Florida to determine the real costs of the policy in order to predict the costs of an expansion. Finally, the project was presented at a symposium where questions were answered in order to both show mastery of the material as well as educate the audience on our possible policy expansion. While I cannot know the exact nature of the policies that Acumen works with, I include this example to show that I have experience of examining a policy even without any help from an outside client.