

INTERN SUCCESS STORY



BENJAMIN TEDDLIE

I have a desire to serve others. The Comptroller's office lets me.

As my final year of college was ending, I was growing anxious. My work experience, up to that point, consisted of two restaurant gigs and a stint in an industrial warehouse. I felt ill-equipped to launch into a full-time position after graduation — I first needed to learn how to work in an office.

I arrived at my university's career fair searching for an opportunity to gain experience and serve others. I found this opportunity at the Comptroller's booth. The recruiter described an agency dedicated to Texans. I learned about its diverse range of divisions, all working collectively to ensure taxpayer dollars are most effectively spent. At the agency, one can learn a little bit about everything — tax auditing, broadband development, legal affairs, and plenty in between. Lacking previous internship experience, this excited me. I applied to the Comptroller's office knowing that I could serve Texans while discovering my career interests and goals.

Experiential learning became my daily reality.

Roughly four months later, I began interning for the Comptroller's office in the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO).

SECO dedicates

itself to schools, hospital districts, and

local governments looking to revamp their aging energy infrastructure. There, I was introduced to a collaborative and excited team of colleagues led by a director who ensured my internship experience was substantive. The team trusted me with consequential tasks. I created several internal documents, including a procedural guide designed for future SECO employees. I participated in meetings, drafted reports, and reviewed contracts.

I proudly accepted an offer to become a full-time employee with SECO. My work throughout the summer was real, educational, and, most importantly, in service of others. I didn't want that to end.



Benjamin Teddlie