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Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research

P.O. Box 12050,

Ras Al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates

Dear Hiring Manager:

I am writing to express my interest in the Summer Internship Program at the Al Qasimi Foundation. The foundation's emphasis on quality research in order to improve systems of education, community development, and health and well-being, demonstrates the importance of, and aids in the advancement of human capabilities and human capital. I know that my studies in International Education Policy and Management, and Global Health, will allow me to make a significant contribution to the continued implementation of the foundation's mission, vision, and values.

My specific research interests lie within the intersection of education and health, particularly that of vulnerable populations. One of the main factors that leads me to pursuing research at the Al Qasimi Foundation is the UAE's reverse gender disparities in education and universal healthcare for all citizens. As an American citizen, I have only had the opportunity to learn about education and health from the point-of-view within my own country, yet I hope to gain greater international exposure into these two sectors through this internship in order to better inform future practices. Furthermore, I recognize the importance of improving the academic performance of male Emirati students, and I would be honored to assist the foundation with such efforts.

Through my Research Design & Data Analysis course, I recently began working with Cocoa360, an organization located in Tarkwa-Breman, Ghana that utilizes community cocoa resources to fund educational interventions and health care services. In conjunction with their Monitoring and Evaluation Team, I am collaborating to gather information on high-performing international schools in Ghana, and delivering data visualization from all of the departments within the organization. This information will be used as a mode to assess and motivate student performance, as the organization plans to expand its model into neighboring villages. This collaboration exemplifies my ability to contribute to projects that directly impact communities, which is a key objective in this internship program. Additionally, the premise of my academic experience revolves around research and analyzing data through statistical software such as STATA, and I am confident that I would be prepared to undertake the responsibilities of this internship position.

Long-term, this internship will assist me in using research to inform policy decisions. I hope to participate in this internship program for at least 10 weeks, taking place between the months of May-August. I look forward to discussing with you the many ways in which I can make a significant contribution to the Al Qasimi Foundation. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration, and I hope to speak with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hill