

Sienna Szymanski

POLICY RESEARCHER & JOURNALIST

Thornton, CO, 80602 | (843)-564-2671 | szymanski.sienna@gmail.com

Education

Yale University | *Class of 2031*

Competencies

Legislative Research & Analysis

Public Policy Deliberation

Constituent Communications

Public Communications & Outreach

Stakeholder Interviewing

Technical Skills

Adobe Creative Suite

InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere Pro

CMS (WordPress) & HTML/CSS

AP Style & Copy Editing

German Language

Intermediate proficiency

Campaign Experience

Dylan Blaha for Congress (IL-13)

Communications Assistant | 2026

- Conducted grassroots voter outreach in competitive primary.
- Designed digital collateral to increase candidate visibility, contributing to 20% vote share.

Awards

***2026 Close Up NextGen Roundtable
Deliberative Dialogue Credential***

Merit-based national selection for excellence in policy analysis and consensus building.

***2025 Illinois State Journalism
Education Association***

1st Place Best Headline | Infographic

2nd Place Best News | Advertisement

Professional Experience

75th Colorado General Assembly | Intern | Aug. 2026 - Present

Political Communications for Democratic Rep. Chad Clifford (HD-37)

- Spearhead multi-channel digital content, including graphics, short-form video, and multimedia communications, to amplify Rep. Clifford's legislative agenda and increase constituent awareness.
- Conduct rigorous research on public policy issues, translating complex legislative topics into accessible explainers, newsletters, and talking points for public consumption.
- Collaborate with legislative staff to monitor committee hearings and community events, documenting key developments to support the office's communication strategy and constituent engagement efforts.

Colorado Trust For Local News | Journalist | Aug. 2026 - Present

- Distill high-volume athletic data and dynamic game-day events into concise, objective, and accessible reporting for a public readership.
- Consistently deliver error-free editorial content under immediate deadlines, demonstrating adaptability and attention to detail.
- Build trust and facilitate effective communication with a diverse array of stakeholders, including high-profile athletes, coaching staff, and local community leaders.

Fellowships & Academic Programs

Next Gen Roundtable: Decision 2026 | *Policy Delegate* | July 2026

- Engaged in rigorous, evidence-based policy deliberation alongside Hoover Institution and Stanford's Deliberative Democracy Lab.
- Synthesized complex, multi-perspective policy data into actionable, consensus-based recommendations.
- Developed high-level skills in navigating partisan viewpoints and facilitating constructive, non-partisan discourse.

Northwestern Medill Journalism Institute | *Student* | July 2025

- Selected for competitive four-week intensive in investigative reporting, multimedia production, and media ethics.
- Refined high-velocity workflow under professional newsroom standards for The Daily Northwestern and North by Northwestern.
- Designed and architected the 2026 digital platform using WordPress, HTML/CSS, and JavaScript; optimized for engagement and SEO.