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Pederson comes from the other Washington, where she received her undergraduate degree in English literature from Seattle University. Pederson is pursuing her master's degree in strategic public relations with a focus on public affairs and media at the University of Southern California.

Before transitioning to the world of policy and politics, Pederson was the marketing manager for renowned graphic novel publisher Fantagraphics Books. Since then, Pederson has interned in the district office of Congressman Adam Schiff, worked as a public affairs intern with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and was a fellow at the USC Center on Public Diplomacy.