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Internships: A Career Move For You?

By Shannon Columbo

An internship is an opportunity for job−seekers to gain experience in the business world without

having to work a full−time job. Internships are placements, generally for students, where the intern works for lower pay than if they were hired employees. An internship has a set duration of time, as well. The benefit of an internship is education; it gives you experience to list on your resume.

Internships are ideal for students at all levels who are looking for experience in certain fields. Internships are also helpful for people who are looking to change careers and wish to gain experience in a new field.

There are many different kinds of internships. There are paid, unpaid, and partially paid internships. Internships in the science and technology fields are often paid. Partially paid internships are remunerated in the form of a stipend, awarded at the beginning or end of the internship. A stipend is a sum of money that is granted not on a yearly salary or hourly wage basis. Stipends are given once. Volunteer internships are good ways to gain experience, and are no less valuable on your resume when you go to find a job.

You can get full−time or part−time internships. Some students choose to work at a full−time internship during the summer. There are benefits to each kind of internship. Full−time internships are often paid, and they give interns a fairly accurate idea of what life is like in the field: be it shift−work or 9−5 computer based office work. Part−time internship work is beneficial when you are not being paid so that you can have another job as your main source of income. It also facilitates career changes because it means that you can work in one field and intern in another. It gives a taste of a field to the intern, perhaps while they are doing school, so they know what they will be looking for and what they will be looking to avoid when they enter the job market.

There are government−sponsored internships in Canada and the United States. These internships are sometimes political, where you work in Parliament or on Capitol Hill. There are other government−sponsored internships that are language−based or skills based. Check out your federal and state or provincial governments because they often offer internships. Some of these internships are youth internship opportunities. These can have a specific age requirement, for example, it might

require the applicant to be between 18−30 years of age.

Universities and colleges often offer internship programs. You can ask at your campus career services to find out how your school can help you place in a work environment. Some of these internships might even count for credit towards your degree, or perhaps be counted on your transcript.

There are also private−sector internships that you can discover. Some of these are at well−established corporations who have one or more internship position each summer or each year to fill. Your school might also be able to help you discover these internships, but it is still ultimately up to you research and find internship opportunities.

International internships are sometimes run by the government or by post−secondary schools. These can also be run by private companies. International internships most often have a language component. These offer inexpensive ways to travel as well as the benefit of relevant work experience.

Interns go through a hiring process that is similar to that for a job. Prospective interns will be asked to hand in a resume and cover letter, as well as potentially references. There will probably be an interview component of the application process. Internships can be more competitive to acquire than other jobs because of the many advantages they offer in the job market. The interview is a suitable time for the employer to explain what they expect from the intern, and for the intern to ask questions about what the internship will be like. It is important to establish the hours of an internship, the duration, the supervision, and the expectations.

There are many advantages to an internship aside from simply the experience−based elements. Often, you will receive mentorship in an internship program. You will have an opportunity to network. You will receive references for the work that you accomplished, sometimes in the form of a written letter.

Interning is often an important step before entering a career in a certain field. Good luck as you begin to enter the workforce in the field of your dreams!

When you are applying to your internship, make sure that you get the position you want by having the resume that stands out. Visit

http://www.theguideto−resumes.com/writing_a_resume/temp_agencies_and_placement_firms/

for more

information on how to get the job.

Internships Help Golf School Graduates Find Jobs

By Andy West

San Diego Golf Academy, a network of five golf schools with a long−standing reputation for quality golf

education, knows the important role that internships play in the placement of their program graduates. As part of their educational program, SDGA offers internships that relate to golf careers: for example, internships with Troon Golf, the world leader in luxury golf resorts, are available to students at all SDGA locations.

But why do golf schools such as San Diego Golf Academy go out of their way to provide their students with the on−the−job training and experience they get from an internship? As Paul Zagnoni, President of SDGA, tells it, internships bridge the gap between an education and a livelihood.

"Participating in an internship is an important part of preparing for a golf career," said Zagnoni. "Internships allow students to experience firsthand what golf jobs are like, as well as providing hands−on experience that will help students find golf jobs after graduation."

Troon Golf's internships, which are available to 3rd and 4th semester students at all San Diego Golf Academy golf schools, will allow students to experience a variety of golf jobs. Although interns will be paid only minimum wage for 20 hours of work per week, the 12−week programs are worth much more than the income they generate: students will find out firsthand what a golf career will be like.

Internships also allow golf school students to learn about the employers in their field. An internship with Troon Golf, a company that prides itself on providing the best golfing experience that money can buy, allows students to see how a luxury golf resort operates - from its five−star service to its superior playing facilities and equipment. Regardless of whether the students pursue golf jobs in the same field after graduation, having interned with such a distinguished company will open many doors for them.

Many golf schools, such as San Diego Golf Academy, also provide students and graduates with an important resource to help them find golf jobs and internships: a guaranteed job placement service. GolFutures, SDGA's golf employment company, successfully places more than 85% of their graduates in golf jobs. In addition to providing golf internships for the students, many golf resorts and other employers - such as Troon Golf - list golf job openings with the school's placement office.

There are many factors that go into a successful golf career. Although education from a good golf school is important, it is actually job experience that opens doors in the field. For this reason, internships are an important part of the golf school experience, as they give students the opportunity to gain job experience prior to graduation.

Andy West is a freelance writer and communications specialist for SDGA. San Diego Golf Academy is a premier golf school with five locations across the United States. For more information on starting a golf career, please visit

http://www.sdgagolf.com

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