



## ASK THE EXPERTS

AUGUST 2024

### COLLEGE STUDENTS

*Help. I need a college internship and don't know where to start.*

As a general rule, students should try to find and apply for an internship at least 3 to 4 months before the internship start date. See the chart below for timelines.

Spring Internship	Summer Internship	Fall Internship	Winter Internship
Late Summer or Early Fall of the Previous Year	Beginning of the Year (January or February)	Mid-Winter Semester (March or April)	Beginning of Fall Semester (August or September)

#### START YOUR PREPARATION EARLY

6 months before applying:

- Clean up your social media presence.
- Review job postings for internships with the title you want to apply for. Identify key skills and requirements.
- Create a resume that sells your value proposition.
- Prepare your elevator pitch.
- Update and actively manage your LinkedIn profile.
- Network! Network! Network!
- Practice interviewing.

#### NO RELEVANT EXPERIENCE? BEING PREPARED CAN HELP!

- *Update Your Skills* - Whether you are a freshman in college, a recent graduate, or a seasoned professional, staying up to date on the latest skills is crucial, especially regarding technology. Check out job postings to identify in-demand skills.
- *Work on Projects* - Work on personal projects that showcase the skills that are relevant/required for the types of jobs you are applying to. Create a personal portfolio website (Google Sites enables you to build a webpage with free hosting) or GitHub account so that a prospective employer can view your accomplishments.
- *Be Active at School* - Involvement in extracurricular activities can give a hiring manager an idea of your skills, interests, dedication, and ability to multitask. If possible, try to take on a leadership role in the clubs or groups that you join. You want to be able to show your marketable skills, not only that you were a member.

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN APPLYING FOR AN INTERNSHIP

- Paid vs. unpaid
- Large vs. small company
- Local vs. need to relocate
- Housing provided (paid or subsidized) vs. not provided
- Formal vs. informal internship program

#### WHERE CAN I FIND AN INTERNSHIP?

[Global Experiences](#)

[LeJob.us](#)

[Absolute Internship](#)

[Wayup](#)

[Parker Dewey](#)

[Glassdoor](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Idealist](#)

[Indeed](#)

[InterJobs](#)

[CoolWorks](#)

[Handshake](#)

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