

Why Should I Work for Free?

The Case for Internships

Introduction

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Grow Professionally

An internship...

- Makes you more competitive in the job market
- Validates that you chose the best major and degree
- Has specific projects stand out on your resume
- Compliments your educational pursuit
- Provides a mentor and helps you learn new skills

Why an Internship

An Internship can be crucial to a successful transition

- Get an specific industry focused veteran transition assistance
- Turn *work* experience into *industry* experience
- Network with industry professionals
- A preview of your chosen career
- Explore the opportunities you didn't knew existed

Your Advantage as a Student Veteran



Adam

University: University of
Massachusetts - Lowell

Major: Criminal Justice

Internship Site: US Marshals
Service

Branch of Service: USMC

Capitalizing on your Military Experience

- ▶ Had an inactive security clearance
- ▶ Prior *work* experience
- ▶ Gained industry experience

Your Advantage as a Student Veteran



David

**University: University of
Kentucky**

Major: Elementary Education

**Internship Site: Council for
Opportunity in Education**

Branch of Service: Army

The non-traditional intern

- ▶ Mature work ethic
- ▶ Looking to diversify academic and practical knowledge of elementary education
- ▶ Gain insight to future career progression

Your Advantage as a Student Veteran



Kirsten

University: Manhattan College

Major: International Relations

Internship Site: Senator

Richard Blumenthal's Office

Branch of Service: USMC

Breaking out of your Military service

- ▶ Did not want to be confined by military profession
- ▶ A deep dive in translating military service and showing value to the employer
- ▶ Built the resume in the right direction

Your Advantage as a Student Veteran



Rafael

University: University of Florida

Major: Economics

Internship Site: Prescient

Branch of Service: Air Force

Start the career, you want

- ▶ Utilized his military service and experience
- ▶ Built a network of peers & professionals
- ▶ Self-advocated his career goals and professional development

How it Can Go Wrong

What I did

- Just worked the 9 to 5
- Never got out of my comfort zone
 - Learned to communicate my expertise and value
 - Network, Network, Network
 - My goals and expectations
- Utilizing my internship experience
 - Did it make me more competitive?
 - Continue to develop what I learned



What do you need to do?

- ▶ Assess your goals and priorities
 - ▶ What do you want?
 - ▶ What will make you happy?
 - ▶ What are your constraints/limitation?
- ▶ RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH
 - ▶ Just like a job search...
 - ▶ What opportunities exists for you?
 - ▶ What is the job description?
 - ▶ Is this internship the best fit for me?
 - ▶ NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK!!!

What do you need to do?



The Veterans Employment Trajectory (VET) Initiative

Sponsored by:



Prudential
Bring Your Challenges[®]

The Washington Center (TWC)



- ▶ Largest independent academic internship program in the U.S.
- ▶ 40 years of preparing college students and young professionals
- ▶ Providing internships with over 1,000 diverse organizations
- ▶ Conveniently located in the center of Washington D.C., five blocks from the White House

The VET Initiative

- 10-Week program (Summer 2018)
 - June 3rd - August 11th
 - Internship (Mon-Thurs)
 - Professional Advancement Colloquium (Friday)
- Full scholarship (\$14,000 value)
 - Includes Program Fee, Housing Fee, the VET Summit, Financial Aid, Career Fair, & Mentorship Program
- Financial Aid (\$2,000)*
 - To help off set travel, cost of living, and incidentals

The Internship Toolkit

- Ongoing internship opportunities at SVA
 - Communication and Marketing, Programs, and Chapter Support
- Veteran Service Organizations and Non Profit Companies
 - The Washington Center VET Initiative
 - Mission Continues Fellowship
 - Federal agencies fellowships and programs
- LinkedIn

Q&A

You Got This

Be excited about pursuing an internship opportunity!