



STUDENT INTERNSHIP FAQs

What is an internship?

An internship is a supervised work experience related to the student's major or career goal that has intentional learning goals to achieve throughout the experience.

What is the purpose of an internship?

The purpose of an internship is to allow students to explore and gain experience in their major or career field of interest before they actually begin the career. Internships provide job training with professionals in the industry, allow for interns to obtain first-hand knowledge of a field, industry and/or employer, build their résumé, and establish a network of professional contacts, mentors, and references.

How long is a typical internship?

The ideal time to do an internship is during an academic semester. The normal periods are: Fall semester (August-December), Spring semester (January-April), or Summer semester (May-August). However, the duration of the internship can be extended or shortened based on the needs of the employer. An internship is not ongoing and should have an end date.

Do I have to be a student?

Yes, interns must be enrolled at Mesa Community College with a minimum 2.5 grade point average.

Is this a paid or an unpaid internship program?

It is up to the company to decide if the internship is paid or unpaid. For the duration of the internship, students will receive real world experience to complement their current studies and may be able to receive college credit, regardless if the internship is paid or unpaid.

Where can I find internship opportunities?

Visit Career Services or search on Maricopa Career Link, www.maricopa.edu/careerlink.

What if I want to intern for a company that is not posted in Maricopa Career Link, or with Career Services?

If a student is interested in interning with a company that is not on Maricopa Career Link or on the Career Services website, the employer can visit <https://www.mesacc.edu/career/internships/internship-employers> and complete the interest form. After the interest form is received, MCC's Career Services department will send a welcome packet to the employer with information about the next steps in establishing an internship partnership.

What is the process to apply for an internship?

Each internship requires a cover letter, résumé and internship application. Application and materials will be reviewed by the employer, and the employers will select student(s) to be interviewed.

Can I put my internship experience on my résumé?

Yes! Internship experience can (and should) be put on a résumé. Employers look for candidates who have acquired experience and achieved success in the workplace in addition to degree completion.

If you need help with your résumé and/or cover letter, Career Services can assist you!
Please contact the Career Services Department to set up your appointment.
Contact Career Services at 480-461-7592 or visit us in the Thunderbird Student Success Center
(Building 36N) on the Southern & Dobson campus.

****Career Services is also available by appointment at the Red Mountain campus in the Mesquite Building****