Economics & Finance Internships

What is the Internship programme?
The University’s internship programmes cover a range of professional fields, creating highly successfully partnerships with a wide range of companies, for profit and non-profit organisations and industries. The Economics & Finance Internship allows companies and other organisations to utilise an enthusiastic student in addressing a current, practical issue or to expose such students to opportunities in their industry or sector.

What will my Organisation gain?
This is a partnership between business and community organisations and the university. Your organisation will gain the services of a highly motivated and capable final-year student. In return, one of the university’s students gains an opportunity to apply his / her academic knowledge to gain an insight into how to transition from academic study to a professional career.

Types of Internships
There are two types of internships, both of which are normally unpaid.

Research Project Internship:
Your organisation defines a specific research project that it wants to address, outlining the objectives, key activities and expected outcomes. You can define the project in conjunction with the university internship coordinator. The student intern will then work on the project at a time that suits you. Internships commonly occur during the summer semester (between November and February), or as specific project-based courses during the university semester. Your organisation will need to appoint a staff member to design and coordinate the project. The university will provide an academic supervisor to work with you, addressing the academic dimensions of the project.
At the completion of the project, the intern will produce a final report, which you can then utilise.

General Internship:
The student works in your organisation for a minimum of 120 hours over the summer (between November and February). This can be tailored to suit the organisation, and can be three 40 hour weeks, eight 15 hour weeks, or some other combination. The student completes general work duties as required by the organisation. The 120 hours is a minimum and many work placement type internships will require significantly more hours than this. Some flexibility may be necessary where students have existing part-time jobs that they need to retain. A break over the Christmas and New Year period will also need to be negotiated.

Who are the students?
Each student will have completed the second year of their studies in Economics and/or Finance. For a research project internship, a potential candidate is presented to you, based on the activities and skills outlined in your project brief. For both research and general internships, you can interview the candidate to ensure that you have the most appropriate person for your project. Students receive degree credit for satisfactory completion of the internship project, based on in-progress measures and a final project report. Student will complete modules delivered by the University of Canterbury before embarking on an internship to ensure they are ‘work ready’. Economics students would normally have completed a minimum of introductory statistics, micro and macroeconomics, intermediate microeconomics and intermediate macroeconomics. Finance students would normally have completed a minimum of introductory statistics, accounting and financial information, along with business finance, markets, institutions and investments.

Find out more
If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact:

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