What is it and how does it work?

The UNSW Professional Development Program (International Students) is an internship and workplace experience initiative for international students facilitated by UNSW Careers and Employment.

The program is open to international students who are currently enrolled in a degree program at UNSW.

Students apply to the program by completing an online application which includes a motivational statement and submission of a resume. All applications are screened and the best candidates are selected to attend the three day seminar program and offered an interview to participate in the internship placement.

For the students, professional work experience assists in:

- Building a range of skills to assist with the completion of their degree
- Discovering more about a career in the “real world”
- Adding the successful internship placement to their resume
- Assisting in securing future employment

The internship placement interviews are jointly conducted by supervisors and UNSW Careers and Employment.

Successful candidates are placed in your organisation to complete a placement of 50 hours.

The program runs twice a year in early February and July.
Benefits for your department/unit

You can meet enthusiastic and dedicated students who are currently completing a degree at UNSW. These students can provide you with insight into student life and give a fresh student perspective. Students have completed internships in a range of areas including:

- Accounting and finance
- Customer service
- IT Support
- Web design and development
- Data entry
- Marketing
- Social media
- Graphic design
- Photography
- Research

Testimonials

Since 2009, the program has successfully placed over 600 students into internships throughout the university.

Feedback from the program and internship placements have been overwhelmingly positive:

“A very rewarding experience! The students placed with us have been dedicated, smart and a pleasure to supervise.”
Sarah Jacob
School of Public Health & Community Medicine

“This is such a worthwhile experience with clear benefits on various levels.”
Bernie McGee
Student Life & Learning

“I think the program is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about office procedures and develop confidence in a professional setting.”
Georgia Blerot
UNSW International

What do we expect from you as an internship supervisor?

- The ability to provide a learning experience for your intern
- The flexibility to allow for the intern’s study schedule
- The commitment to provide supervision, support and feedback to your intern

For more information and to request an intern, contact us:

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