What is The President’s PROMISE?

Every Terp has the chance to engage in a special experience for extraordinary personal growth.

Most of us have heard the frustrating phrase, “Need a job to get experience, need experience to get a job.” The President’s Promise ensures that the University of Maryland is chock-full of opportunities outside the classroom to help you identify your passions and gain a competitive edge.

Pursuing these opportunities will:
- Help clarify career interests
- Build your network
- Exercise your leadership skills
- Give you a competitive edge
- Broaden your horizons
- Strengthen your skill sets

Staff are available at the University Career Center & The President’s Promise to help you navigate through all of your specific interests and options to select the best opportunities for your personal goals.

Schedule an appointment through Careers4Terps to learn more about the different types of opportunities and which ones are best for you.

All About Internships

Internships offer you on-the-job experience—the number one factor employers consider when hiring employees. Internships can be full- or part-time, short- or long-term, paid or unpaid, for or not for credit, or any combination of these. Above all, an internship needs to be a supervised work experience that enhances a student’s academic and/or career skills.

**INTERNSHIP FAQs**

What important steps should I take before seeking an internship?
Self-assess. What skills and strengths do you have to offer an organization? What career field is of most interest to you? Are you open to a part-time, fall or spring semester internship? Where, geographically, do you want to intern, and do you have connections in that location?

When should I begin searching for an internship?
Now! It is best to start searching at least one semester in advance to allow time to research internships, prepare application materials, and practice interviewing skills. This timeline can be changed depending on the field you are pursuing, so do your research!

Do I get paid for my internship?
Some internships are unpaid; however, some pay regular hourly wages or offer a small stipend. Be aware of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Fair Labor Standards Act which helps determine whether interns must be paid the minimum wage for the services they provide to “for-profit” private sector employees.

Do you have to be a junior or senior to have an internship?
While many internships are advertised for juniors and seniors, opportunities exist for students of all academic levels.

How do I receive academic credit for an internship?
You need to arrange credit with your department or contact University Career Center staff for assistance.

HELPFUL INTERNSHIP WEBSITES

Careers4Terps: careers.umd.edu/careers4terps
Federal Government internships: usa.gov
Non-profit internships: idealist.org
All industries: indeed.com, internships.com and industry-specific websites

BRIGHT FUTURES: INTERNSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Our Center accepts scholarship applications for unpaid summer internships with nonprofit or governmental agencies. For more information on this undergraduate opportunity, visit: go.umd.edu/BrightFutures