



Why Internships Help Young Adults Make Important Connections that may change their lives Forever

All young adults, either in their senior year in high school or college need to apply for and get accepted into an internship program. Internships need to be researched before applying to them. Make it fun by finding companies you like and want to work for. Companies use internships to find potential fulltime employees and to find out if these prospects have a good work ethic and fit in with their company's culture/environment. The summer time is the perfect time to get this real world experience, before you get obligated to a company you care less about. This is also the time to find out if the company is the right fit for you and if you would like to commit a large part of your working days to a particular company.

I look back on my life and regret not knowing how valuable internships can be and are to a young adult trying to find their place in the world. I know for a fact that most companies prefer to hire from within and a three month internship, if performed well, will put you in the "in-crowd" of a company, just three months. It will probably be the most valuable three months you will ever spend on yourself. Most internships pay very little to no pay, but you will learn how the corporate world functions and whether or not you truly want to be a part of it.

Regardless of your path in college, I recommend applying to companies you like and want to improve or just to be around likeminded individuals. Even if you are a medical student, I still say apply to your favorite company, whether it is clothing, technology, or industry. For example, apply to Patagonia if you like the outdoors; apply to Corning Inc., if you like a company that is revolutionary in the world of glass, such as Gorilla Glass; or apply to Levi Strauss, if you love wearing Levis. These are the types of companies that make life interesting and enjoyable, why wouldn't you want to work for one of them? Take your pick; there are hundreds of companies to choose from, what company do you want to spend your life making into a better company and having fun doing it?

Bottom line, internships are the best way for a company to get to know you and for you to get to know the company. The company gets three months of free labor and you get three months of inside information about the company and its workplace culture and morale. If you like the company and the company likes you, it is likely they will offer you a full time position. What better way to start your professional career than at a place you decided to work for instead of merely applying for a random job at a company that is hiring a person that has X, Y and Z for credentials.