

Program Overview

The internship program at Lake Erie College is an experiential education opportunity that provides the link between the classroom and the workplace. It enables the student to increase the relevance of coursework and enhance learning by providing the opportunity to apply classroom theory to practical experience.

I. Definition

The internship experience involves an **academic relationship** between the student, faculty sponsor, office of Career Services and Internships, and the employer. It is an opportunity for the student to augment coursework and on-the-job assignments related to her/his academic interests (major). It is a carefully monitored work or service experience in which the student has intentional learning goals and reflects actively on what she/he is learning throughout the experience. An internship is a single-semester or finite time period that may be paid or unpaid, and when registered, is **an academic course for credit**.

II. Benefits

In today's competitive job market, employers are looking for experience coupled with a college education. Internships allow the student to gain work experience through an academic relationship with the college and the employer, allowing them to explore different career opportunities. It is a win-win situation where both the student and the employer have the opportunity to determine if they are a good fit. **While not all majors are required to do an internship, it is strongly encouraged that all students do at least one internship during their academic career.**

III. Academic Policy

- Internships are available to sophomores, juniors and seniors with a 2.0 G.P.A. or better and should be in the student's area of academic study.
- One academic credit hour is earned for every fifty hours worked at the internship site. An internship can be assigned 2 to 5 semester hour credits. In addition, the interning student is required to put in whatever hours are necessary to complete the academic component of the internship: i.e., meeting with the faculty sponsor, and completing all academic activities

required by the faculty sponsor.

- A second internship at the same site may be completed only if the responsibilities are distinctly different.
- Internships follow Lake Erie College's academic schedule. **Students must be registered for the internship during the semester in which the internship will be completed** (i.e., To receive credit for a summer internship, a student must be registered for the internship during the summer semester). Students may participate in an internship during the fall, spring or summer semesters.
- Internships are required for the following majors: Environmental Science, Equestrian Facilities Management, Equestrian Teacher/Trainer, Legal Studies, Social Science: Criminal Justice concentration, and International Business.

IV. Tuition for Credits

Internships are academic courses for credit. Thus, tuition for internship credits is the same as for other credits earned at the college.