

# Fall Internship 2018

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# Benefits

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- Many wonder why an internship would be a proper use of their time in a high school schedule, debating if they would actually benefit from it.
- Regardless of the work place itself, and regardless of your plans after high school, an internship will always be beneficial.
- Everyone will end up in the workforce, and whether that is right after high school or college, having early exposure will prepare you better than being thrown directly into it.

# What I Learned: Workplace

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- From being in the office, perhaps my greatest benefit was learning the proper efficiency and organization of an office.
- Every piece of paper that came through the door or off the printer had a precise movement through the office, being marked up, reviewed, and properly organized. Any mishap could be a hindrance to the flow of work. For example, a duplication of a payment request could mean paying someone twice as much as originally anticipated.
- Even in a small operation, organization and efficiency is crucial to the consistent success of a business. With the knowledge of this importance, I am more prepared to be organized and efficient in any workforce I may be exposed to.



# What I Learned: Engineering

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- The reason I chose to work with a construction company is because of my interest in civil engineering and my history with the engineering program at Northwestern. Being able to see the process of planning and implementing actual designs has led me to understand more about the career than from a classroom.
- One thing that surprised me is the level of building codes and zoning laws. Though I am being taught about them in my civil engineering class this semester, seeing our contractors contact city officials and applying for building permits has allowed me to understand the necessity and detail of them. I am also able to see these details from a more realistic point of view, one that which a classroom cannot offer.
- This is one of many examples of the amplification of learning through an internship that still pertains to my traditional education in the classroom. This opportunity allows me to visualize and further comprehend what this field of work will look like, and can help me decide if it is truly what I'd like to pursue.

# Conclusion

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- All in all, having the experience of an internship has greatly benefitted what I am being taught in school and developed the skills necessary for any workplace.
- The program was so beneficial in fact, that I would advocate for more availability throughout high school, even starting small in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, which could only be useful for the building of these great traits sooner in high school students.
- I recommend any high school student to participate in work based learning, so they can benefit from the same experiences I was able to in my time this semester.



