

5 Tips for Getting the Most out of your Summer Internship

A summer internship is a great opportunity for anyone to get their foot-in-the-door of a company or field in which they have interest. But how can an intern make the most out of these temporary gigs? Here are 5 tips for making your summer internship count.

1. Get Advice

Don't be afraid to ask your coworkers questions about how you can one day land a permanent spot on the team and achieve success in the field you are interested in. Others can advise you on what to study, and what may not be necessary.

2. Make an impression

Don't fade into the background. Take the short amount of time you have with the company to make a good impression on the staff so they will keep you in mind for future opportunities. You never know who might have a say in a job you're applying for in the future.

3. Find a mentor

Identify an established leader in the company with whom you feel comfortable and ask them to be your mentor. More often than not, they will say yes. Go to them for advice and career guidance and work to create a relationship that will last long after the internship ends.

4. Learn as much as possible

Take advantage of the short time you have with the company to learn as much about the workplace as you can. Shadow colleagues who work jobs that you find even remotely interesting to help you identify your career.

5. Set a future plan

Schedule a time to come back to shadow colleagues and meet with your mentor after the internship ends. Then, visit an ARIZONA@WORK office and meet with a workforce specialist to set a career pathway that will apply what you've gained from your internship to eventually achieving your goal of obtaining your dream career.

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