Types of Internships Opportunities for AB 540 & Undocumented Students

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Benefits of Internships

- Gaining Transferable Skills
- Finding Interest
- Major/Minor Related Experience
- Networking
- Serving the Community
Paid Internships vs Unpaid Internships

- Monetary compensation
  - Scholarship
  - Stipend
  - Book Scholarship
  - Gift Cards
  - Check

- Can offer more flexibility with duration of internships
Volunteerism: What can I gain?

- Professional Development
- Exposure to Networking
- Identifying the Stakeholders
- Enhancing Resume Content
Transferable Skills

- Working well with others
- Ability to take direction
- Diversify your background and experiences
- Become a marketable potential employee
- Build upon you strengths and weaknesses
Networking

- What is networking?
- What do you gain from networking?
- Why is it important?

Networking is a skill that should be mastered sooner rather than later.

Every conference, meeting, lecture and social event is an opportunity to meet new people, build your reputation and create opportunities for yourself.

There are countless scholarships, internships and other opportunities that have come out of simple networking, so go out and mingle!
Strategic Networking: “It’s Not What You Know, It’s Who You Know”

A few words of advice:

- Create business cards and have them ready at all times (it is okay for your title to be student). Vistaprint.com offers a “free” set of business cards with professional-looking designs (it’s not really free because you have to pay for tax and shipping, which is maybe $10 or less.)

- Make it a habit to attend lectures, speeches, and other special events on campus and in your community because you never know who will be there.
Strategic Networking: “It’s Not What You Know, It’s Who You Know”

A few words of advice:

- Look at the program ahead of time and determine whom you may want to speak with afterward.
- Ask questions throughout the event.
- Target key people you would like to talk to, introduce yourself and describe what you do.
- If you are unable to identify someone on your target list, look for an individual you already know who is conversing with someone you do NOT know.
- Exchange business cards and follow up with an e-mail or a phone call.
How do internships relate to my major?

- Able to sample various fields with personal experience to gain a better perspective
- Can help you choose a major and potential career choice
- These experience can lead to a clear plan to your future.
Internship Resources

- UCLA Labor Center
  - DREAM Summer
  - http://labor.ucla.edu/Internships.html
- MALDEF
  - http://maldef.org/about/jobs/index.html
- The Nonprofit Network
  - http://thenonprofitnetwork.org/findjob.php
- Brave New Foundation
  - http://www.bravenewfoundation.org/about/volunteers/
Opportunities for AB540 & Undocumented Students

- “The majority of employers will still require a social security number, but those that yield academic credit may have different rules because you are working without compensation and will remain a student during the assignment.”

- “Public servants (such as legislators, city council members) who have expressed support for undocumented students in the past can be a good resource for internships.”

http://www.ab540.ucla.edu/campusresource_studentlife.html
Overview: Options After College

- **Employment**
  - May be presented with opportunities to start the legalization process through employer sponsorship under rigorous requirements

- **Graduate or Professional School**
  - There are no restrictions to prevent attendance at the Graduate/Professional schools
    - Some Professional schools require employment as part of their curriculum (i.e. teaching credentialing program)
    - Obtaining Certifications/ state license required for some professions is difficult for undocumented immigrants due to requirements such as background checks, social security and state examination
    - College cost continue to be a concern; cosigners are needed for private loans
Overview: Options After College

- **Internships & Fellowships**
  - Internships provide supervised work experience and practical training in a field of profession of interest
  - Fellowships may be viewed as paid internships, for which undocumented students may be eligible

- **Research**
  - Working on research with faculty members at a college is one way to gain experience
  - Sometimes students receive a “stipend” if the source of funding is tax-exempt
  - Undocumented students are not eligible for stipends that come from the public college or university that is government funded.
Networking

The size and quality of a student’s academic/professional network will largely determine access to opportunities and information while in college and when exploring career options.
Questions
Reference

- Educators for Fair Consideration

- Fastweb Internships

- UCLA Department of Chicano/a Studies
  - [http://www.chavez.ucla.edu/student-resources/ab540-student-resources](http://www.chavez.ucla.edu/student-resources/ab540-student-resources)