Business Students Share Their Strategies

Chris Miller - Intern at Valero Energy. Graduated with a BBA in Management Science and is currently an Associate Corporate Economic Analyst at Valero Energy.

"Any time a company that I was interested in was on campus, I made a point to stop by and hand the recruiter my resume. I would go through Handshake every day looking for internships."

Raquel Martinez - Intern at the Kohl’s Credit Division. Graduated with a BBA in Management and received full time offer with Kohl’s Credit Division.

"By attending professional development events and programs like the Career Action Program, I learned the importance of first impressions, communication and networking. This helped me in so many ways from landing an internship with Kohl’s Credit Division."

Sheyenne Brubaker - interned with Rudy’s BBQ, Valero Energy and PwC. She will graduate with a Masters of Accountancy and plans to accept a full time offer with PwC.

"Do not start looking for internships too late. Attending the career fair is how I obtained my internship with Valero. Handshake is a good website to use, that’s how I found and applied for my Rudy’s and PwC internships."
Internships Lead to Opportunities

Internships are an opportunity for you to gain professional experience relevant to your major, and can lead to securing a good job after graduation. During your time at UTSA, internships will build your resume and allow you to explore various industries and fields, helping you determine what is a good fit as you begin your career. In today’s job market, the more relevant experience you have, the more competitive you will be to employers.

Why Pursue an Internship?

Still not convinced? According to the NACE 2016 Internship & Co-op Survey, employers made full-time offers to 72.7% of their interns! Employers and students agree that internships are an important component to successfully launching your career.

The College of Business recommends seeking an internship as early as your sophomore year. Internships for academic credit have degree requirements that need to be met. Be sure to discuss your options with an academic advisor before pursing an internship for credit.

Are you Ready?

Preparation is the key for searching and landing that internship! Follow these steps and check them off as you go along.

1) Know your career interests and desired companies
   Do you see yourself working with an accounting or investment firm? Maybe on a marketing campaign? Having a general idea of what you’re looking for can save you time and energy. Many companies begin their recruitment as early as 6-8 months out.

2) A professional resume and LinkedIn profile
   A knockout resume lists your prior work experience, academic accomplishments, leadership and student organization involvement. Use the CSPD/V-Mock website for instant resume feedback.

3) Become a frequent user of the UTSA Handshake Job Board
   Visit Handshake.com, create your profile and explore the site to view upcoming events and requirements for internships you are interested in.

4) Purchase professional attire for networking and interviews
   It’s time to trade in those jeans and flip-flops for a suit and polished shoes. Remember, your dressing to impress potential employers, not to go out on a Saturday night.

5) Develop a well-crafted elevator speech
   Can you describe your accomplishments, strengths and unique selling points in 30-40 seconds? An elevator speech can break the ice at networking events and career fairs, where employers are eager to strike up conversations with talented students.

6) Attend all UTSA Career Fairs
   The university hosts the All Majors Career Fair every fall and spring semester. Local, regional and multi-national companies attend in search of interns and new hires. Having an updated resume, elevator speech and professional wardrobe is a must!

7) Meet employers by participating in the Career Action Program (CAP)
   Every year over 175 business professionals volunteer for CAP events. This gives student participants an opportunity to build their network, improve their personal skills and learn about upcoming opportunities.

8) Attend CSPD career development and networking events held in the College of Business
   The CSPD aims to transform business students into career focused professionals. Every semester the CSPD hosts a variety of companies on campus, and invites students to come out and meet with professionals.

9) Meet employers recruiting in the Business Building
   Expect to see companies set up in the Business Building on a consistent basis. They are available to discuss their latest opportunities and deadlines. Don’t forget to ask for a business card, and follow up!

10) Visit company websites and search for internships
    Not all companies will post on job boards or visit campus. Browsing through the career section of top companies can lead to opportunities.

11) Begin applying for internships
    Your research is done, and you have the materials to be competitive. Gather those applications and submit them before the deadlines!

12) Have some determination and patience!
    Stick with it and do not become discouraged by a lengthy search. Employers are constantly reviewing resumes and making hiring decisions. Stay focused, positive and motivated!

Websites to help with your internship search:

- firstjob.com
- internqueen.com
- internships.com
- linkedin.com
- txinternshipchallenge.com
- themuse.com
- utsa.joinhandshake.com
- wayup.com

Where will you land?

UTSA College of Business Interns are everywhere. Take a look at a few companies where business students have recently interned!

- Acelity
- ATKG
- AXA Advisors
- BKM
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- CST Brands
- Eli Lilly
- Enterprise Holdings
- Ernst & Young
- Family Service Association
- FBI
- Frost Bank
- Goldman Sachs
- Goodwill
- Harland Clarke
- H-E-B
- Jetblue Airways
- Kohl’s Credit Division
- KPMG
- Northwestern Mutual
- PwC
- Rackspace
- RSM US, LLP
- SA Education Partnership
- Southwest Airlines
- State Farm
- SWBC
- Target
- Tesoro Corporation
- USAA
- UTSA Athletics
- Valero Energy
- Vantage Bank
- Wal-Mart
- Whataburger