

## How Important Are Internships?



Internship is an integral part of your higher education. Especially if you are doing an MBA, it is very important that you take this process seriously and only secure internship in an organization that can help you enhance your career once you pass out and start working. So, let us have a look at the internship issue in a bit of detail, in order to figure out why internship is important and how will it help you in the future.

### **Learn without Pressure**

Internship is your best opportunity to learn without pressure. In real jobs, there is always a pressure to perform and too earn your living. It may get overwhelming at times. While in internship, you are still a student and nobody really fires an intern. So, take it as your chance to set aside all the worries of the world and learn as much as you can from the people who have worked in your field for years.

### **Get christened to Corporate Culture**

Corporate world is a wholly different place compared to your college. There are unique etiquettes, expectations, jargons, and best practices at work here. Unless you have parents working in the same field, all of these will be very new to you. No matter how much you study in college, an office will still teach you something new. So, it does take some familiarization, and getting used to. Internship is your best opportunity to get introduced to corporate culture and prepare yourself for the future.

## **Build Networks**

Another big opportunity provided by internship is the networking. Within your college you only get to know your teachers and other students. At the workplace, you meet real professionals. You can learn from them and in the future, if you do manage to build a good rapport, someone of them may offer you some good opportunity in the future. So, internship is also a great opportunity to socialise and build contacts that may be useful in the future.

## **Find a Mentor**

Not everybody can survive on their own in the big bad corporate world. Most people need a guide or a mentor to show the right path. In your life we have parents, relatives, teachers, and friends for that. But the competitive workplace is a different world and even they might have any idea about the same. Internship may also be a good opportunity to find a mentor, someone who is in a senior role and is an accomplished professional. If you can build the rapport, you can get invaluable advice during the early years of your career.

## **You may get an offer too**

Also, not to forget that if you really perform well, you can get an offer for a full-time job during the internship. So, you will have no pressure left for the placements for the next year as your biggest concern will be already taken care of.

So, while you go to an internship keeping the aforementioned goals in mind, just note the following points.



## **Be sure about your choices**

Do not just go anywhere for the sake of it. Take some time to think about your long term goals and on the basis of that make a list of organizations that will be good for you. Also, prepare well for the interviews so that you do not get rejected by your dream companies. Similarly, be sure about [what degree or what specialization to opt for](#). Don't do anything because your peers are doing it. Find your real strength and pursue it.

## **Maintain and follow up the contacts**

As they say, out of sight is out of mind. Once you finish the internship, you will have to come away and leave your contacts behind. But if you do not catch up occasionally, they will forget you soon. So, keep in touch, use social networks, and try to have meaningful conversation occasionally with them.

## **Maintain a balance**

In the professional world, it is important to come across as mature and level headed. So, do not overdo anything. Ask questions and learn but do not pester anyone endlessly and do not ask personal questions. Know your limits and know when to stop.

## **Take initiatives but accept criticism**

Try to come across as a positive and forthcoming person who can take initiatives. However, always remember that an intern is there for a month or two. You are primarily there to learn and you cannot solve their problems overnight. So, accept whatever criticism comes your way and learn from it to improve yourself.