

COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY

Landing An Internship/Co-op

How to land an internship at a reputable company with various resources!



MEET THE PRESENTER



Abdulaziz Khan

Hey guys I am a 4th year student at the Uni. I am currently the Career Advisor for the Computer Science Society. I have completed 2 Internships, one with the Ontario Treasury Board and the second being with a Startup called The Lease Genius. I am also going to be interning with Nvidia in Winter 2022 as a Software Engineer!

FEEL FREE TO ASK QUESTIONS AT ANY POINT DURING THE PRESENTATION!!!!



Linkedin.com/in/Abdulaziz-khan/



Why do an Internship/Co-op?

- The number one reason would be experience!
- Allows you to understand what you like and don't like in the field. FrontEnd, BackEnd, DevOps, etc.
- Money obviously
- Could lead to a Full Time Offer!
- Build your network!
- Travel and Experience different places post covid hopefully!



Internship During the Pandemic

- The job market took a hit during the pandemic especially for internships.
- But things are slowly returning to normal with internships becoming more available once again!
- Many places are currently conducting remote internships!
- A positive is that companies will give you bonuses for working from home and allows you to have flexible work hours!



Internship Vs Co-op

- For an internship you would apply using links provided to the general public found on sites like LinkedIn, GitHub Repos and careers sites
- You prep and apply by yourself and they tend to pay more then Co-op!
- For the Co-op program you apply through the Co-op portal and get postings exclusive for Co-op students
- Co-op also provides workshops and you take a Transform course to help you get ready for applying!
- But there is a Co-op Fee

Common Misconceptions

- "Most Internships are unpaid"
- False and this is actually illegal in Ontario, you can report them.
- "You cannot apply to internships if you're in the Co-op Program"
- False you can apply to posting and Co-op will accommodate it if you land the opportunity yourself
- "Internship sound great! Why should I pay for Co-op? Lets Drop Co-op?
- Internships are not the easiest to get and having co-op as a backup for your first internship is highly recommended





How to Land An Internship?

- 1. Prepare
- 2. Apply
- 3. Interview
- 4. Result (Offer/Rejection)



Prepare

- Landing the first internship is usually the hardest one because no one wants to take a chance on someone with no experience! But here are some tips to have a better shot!
- Build Side Projects (Hackathons)
- Create a concise but appealing resume
- Practice Coding Problems (Leetcode, Hackerrank, Codesignal)
- Read CTCI, Data Structures & Algorithms Books and Learn the 14 Problem Solving patterns.



Apply

- Majority of tech companies offer summer internships! But they also offer internships for Fall/Winter. Some places also have internships dedicated for 1st/2nd year students such as Google STEP or Facebook University
- Browse various job board online such as Glassdoor, LinkedIn, intern.supply!
- Make sure you apply for a large variety of places don't just apply to big companies such as Amazon, FB, Google, Apple.
- Get a Referral from a friend/relative or reach out to a recruiter on LinkedIn.



Interview

- Most companies have a highly technical process to assess your coding and problem solving skills.
- Every company has a different way to conduct an interview.
- Typical Interview Process
 - Coding Challenge (Online Assessment through Hackerrank)
 - 1-2 Phone Interviews (45min 1hr)
 - 2-4 Onsite (45min 1hr)
 - Offer/Rejection



Technical Interviews

- Usually there is two styles of technical interviews.
 - Domain Specific
 - Questions about topics such as Polymorphism or Inheritance.
 - Data Structures & Algorithms
 - Leetcode is a great place to prep
 - Usually want an optimized solution
 - Get a brute force and then work your way to Optimized Solution
 - Communication is Key



Interview Tips

- General tips!
 - Prepare a cheat sheet for common questions!
 - Sounds enthusiastic
 - Prepare by reading about past interviews on Glassdoor
- Common Behavioural Questions
 - What are you looking forward to in this internship?
 - Favourite Project you worked on and why?
 - Tell me about yourself(You always get this question)
 - Talk about technical and non-technical don't just read off your resume
- Organize Mock Interviews



Result (Offer/Rejection)

- Most companies will call with results from your interview.
 Or you can expect an email from them.
- If you get an offer:
 - Celebrate!
 - Understand it (Can you live off this pay? Benefits?
 Visa?)
- If you do not get an offer:
 - Thank them for the opportunity
 - Do not get sad about it
 - Wait for 6 month before reapplying
 - Expect Rejections





Resume Tips

- Keep it one page
- Find a good template online (Use Overleaf)
- Submit Resume in PDF
- Short and concise bullet points
- Mention accomplishments!
- Use action verbs(Designed, Developed, Created, etc.
- Mention and bold key words (Technologies, Statistics)
- List your average if it is above 80%



Resume Tips

- Recruiters only look at your resume for 10 20s
- I recommend having your resume in the following order:
 - Education
 - Skills
 - Experience
 - Projects
 - Competitions(If Applicable)
 - Awards (If Applicable)
- Common Resume materials that are not necessary:
 - Summary
 - References
 - Address, Images,
 - Interest, Logos



RoadMap for People with Zero Experience

- Make at least one project
 - Hackathons are a great place to start and at the Uni we have 2 hackathons which are Borderhacks and WinHacks.
- Build a clean resume using previous slides
- Try to get a research position or some sort of small position(Volunteer Work)
 - Ask Profs if they need help and you don't lose anything if they say no. Just do it!
- Start applying to internships/co-ops!



Working in the US!

- Many people tend to end up working the States. Benefits:
 - Higher Pay
 - More Opportunities
 - Fun Cities to explore (SFO, LA, NYC)
- To work as a student in the US you need the J-1 Visa:
 - J-1 is required regardless of citizenship
 - Company has to sponsor you
 - Company usually deal with majority of the paperwork you might need to submit some documents

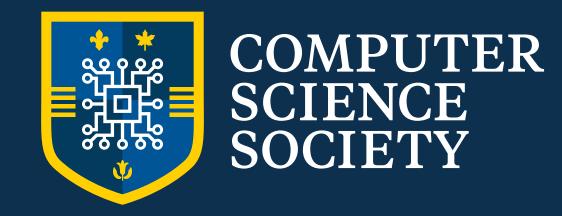


FAQ

- "What languages/tools should I know to attract companies"
 - Pretty much any popular language is fine, companies usually don't require a certain language and assume you can learn on the job
- "How Important are grades?"
 - Surprisingly not that important. Few companies will ask for your transcript, but some companies will ask for your GPA. I have noticed that companies with Co-op do tend to ask for your transcript more then larger companies.



Questions?



THANK YOU

FOR JOINING US!

Make sure to tune in next time!