

Military Extension Internship Program

Podcast Transcript

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Are you a college student or recent college graduate looking for a great internship opportunity? Do you enjoy working with children and youth? If so, listen up!

The Military Extension Internship Program offers college students and recent graduates a unique opportunity to gain professional work experience in child development and youth programs on military installations worldwide. As an intern in this Department of Defense program, you can experience diverse career opportunities in the areas of child and youth development and recreation.

What's the point of an internship? Participating in an internship can help you develop the knowledge and skills you need to be competitive in your job search and give you the chance to explore your chosen career field in state-of-the-art child development and youth programs. Through the Military Extension Internship Program, you will also have the opportunity to develop a valuable network of professional contacts.

Here are some of the specifics: Interns receive a broad range of experience in settings such as child development centers, school-age programs and youth centers on military installations, serving military children from birth to age 18. Depending upon your location, you may complete a variety of tasks related to child, youth and family programs that may enhance programming or child care efforts, connect families with support systems and engage new youth or families in programs.

Internships can last from 10 weeks to six months and may be eligible for academic credit, if you desire. An internship coordinator is available to assist you with making arrangements with your school. Compensation varies by military service, but all interns receive assistance to cover basic living expenses.

To be eligible for the program, you must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, have a GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, have completed at least four semesters of college classes by the beginning of the internship, be majoring in child development, youth development, recreation, management or a similar program, and plan to pursue a professional career similar to your major, such as those within education, child or youth programs, or family services.

Are you ready to take advantage of this great opportunity? The application, which can be found online at www.ydae.purdue.edu/military, requires a 600-word (or less) essay, two recommendation forms, official transcripts from your institution of higher education showing that you are a degree-seeking student (or a recent graduate) and, if applicable, an outline of your college's requirements for receiving academic credit. The program accepts applications three times per year. For information on future deadlines, visit the website to sign up for email updates on the program.

Approximately 30 percent of eligible interns are hired into military children and youth programs upon completing their internships, giving you not only valuable experience, but also the possibility of finding a lasting career. Visit www.ydae.purdue.edu/military for more information or to get started on your application.

The Military Extension Internship is managed by Purdue University and made possible through a partnership between the Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Land Grant University Cooperative Extension System.

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For more information, visit Military OneSource at <http://www.militaryonesource.mil>, an official Department of Defense website.