



THE EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM AT TISOH

A TISOH education converts practical learning and industry experience into dreams, passions and careers. The school mission is to offer practical hospitality certificates and diplomas. To achieve this, the school uses a faculty of distinguished industry professionals as instructors and heavily involves the industry in providing site visits, guest speakers and advisory board members. Another hallmark of TISOH programs is in requiring students in most courses* to complete externships.

What is an externship?

An externship is an unpaid position lasting from 15 to 30 hours (depending on the program of study) at a company of your choice. As the name implies, you are external to the company and considered not as an employee but a visitor.

The externship experience can be crafted to fit your specific needs and interests. It is different from an internship as an internship is longer and administered by the sponsoring company.

How does an externship benefit me?

An externship allows you to investigate a career field, experience the typical responsibilities of positions within the career field, test a career to determine the proper fit (it may or may not be a good fit for you and hopefully you will discover that during your externship), get your foot in the door for future opportunities, gain an industry mentor, add lines to your resume and obtain a recommendation letter (if you do well!)

As you can see, externships are incredibly valuable and a unique benefit for being a student.

What will I be doing as an extern?

Externship experiences differ based on your needs and those of the sponsoring companies. Some may have you visit different departments, or you may spend your entire time within one department or in some cases you may be learning from a particular individual.

Examples of what you might do on an externship include shadowing/observing/networking with professionals, sitting in on meetings, assisting with tasks/projects etc. Certain tasks may seem clerical or tedious, but without getting ones hands dirty, it is hard to experience the full picture of a company's operations. Also, in certain cases, it is simply the price of experiencing an externship at a particular company.



It is important to keep a clear line of communication so that each party is aware of the desired outcome. Life, as well as business is a give and take relationship. When you discuss with potential companies, share with them what you can offer as well as what you want out of the experience.

How will I get an externship?

Part of the training is in securing your own externship. By initiating your own search, you gain valuable resume building, networking and interviewing ability. Having said that, the school can provide a list of resources and sites to assist you. In many cases, the school can also help make the proper introductions.

For online students located outside of Las Vegas, the school can supply a letter you can use to introduce yourself to companies. Through the many industry associations the school belongs to, introductions can be made to help you secure externships. Also, if your schedule permits, you can consider visiting Las Vegas for a few days to do an externship. The school can assist you in making arrangements.

Further externship information will be during the program. If you are a prospective student and have questions, please contact Rebecca Stebbins at rstebbins@tiso.com or (702) 947-7200 x206.

**Externships are optional for the following courses: Event Design & Production, Art of Food & Beverage, Meeting & Event Catering, Hospitality Leadership & Supervision, and Hospitality Human Resources.*

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