

Executive Internship Program

National recognition
in 1998 by
U.S. School-to-Work Office
*One of Five Best Practices
Programs*



EIP
Experience.....

What is an Executive Internship Program?

The Executive High School Internship program (EHSI) originated in New York City, in 1971. Since that beginning, a variety of program models and concepts have been administered and promoted by the Executive High School Internship Association of America (EHSIA), and continue to be nationally recognized. The Executive Internship Program, an EHSIA member, began in Pinellas County, Florida, in 1974.

The Executive Internship Program (EIP) embodies some of the best elements of both traditional and contemporary approaches to education. EIP is a marriage of the theoretical and the practical, combining the best elements of classroom theory with actual experience in the world of professionals; it is academically oriented education based on experience.

Through the Executive Internship Program, students are assisted academically and experientially in developing skills which promote self-directed learning, self awareness, goal setting, creative problem solving, and cross-cultural sensitivity. EIP represents a strong response to the present-day search for expanded educational options.

*"EIP is a valuable tool in a student's preparation for college and the "real world" of careers. My internship was interesting, educational and fun." **

What is the role of an Intern?

The Executive Internship Program enables high school students to gain experience and expertise in particular professions. Selected students spend 10-15 hours per week with their sponsors and undertake activities that provide comprehensive views of organizations that focus on the sponsors' professional roles, responsibilities, and functions. Students become knowledgeable about the organization's long-range company priorities and how decisions are made about those priorities. Students learn to seek insight into the qualities, skills and knowledge that help professionals perform effectively.

The serious educational nature of EIP requires students to fulfill academically-oriented assignments, participate in seminars, demonstrate and reflect upon learning, and participate in self and program evaluations.

What is the role of the Sponsor?

Sponsors provide students an unpaid internship experience which is broadly educational in scope, supportive of the program's goals and purpose, and directed toward providing students with a comprehensive understanding of how the organization functions.

** Denotes actual student evaluations.*

*"As I look back on my Executive Internship experience.... I would have never guessed I would have consumed so much experience or knowledge in such a short period of time!... This program has not only challenged my mind, but my person as well. I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow so much and to accomplish more than I had ever dreamed!"**

Student Benefits

Students:

- acquire expertise and experience in a chosen profession through direct exposure to organizational structures, policies, and environments, and learn the value of positive interaction and public relations.
- obtain a realistic view of the professional world and learn to recognize and evaluate the personal characteristics essential to professional success.
- recognize the importance of taking initiative to make an experience worthwhile and seek challenges beyond the workplace and the academic setting in preparation for future success.

Sponsor Benefits

Sponsors:

- are able to share their professional experiences and successes with tomorrow's professionals while showing a commitment to the community.
- become positive influences in interns' lives.
- may identify future talent and may train students as potential employees.

*"I have grown mentally, spiritually, and emotionally this semester to become an inspired, stronger individual. The Executive Internship Program guided me through one of the greatest learning experiences of my life."**

Home School /District Benefits

- Positive relationships are developed between the school and the business community.
- The district gains exposure to the community.
- Students become positive representatives of today's youth within the professional setting and return to school as positive role models for other students.
- Because many students in the professional setting are exposed to high-technology, they can demonstrate the skills necessary for success in the work world.
- Students are prepared to become community leaders and positive representatives of the school district.



"...The instructors and guest speakers were invaluable in preparing [my son] for the professional standards in the business community. Not only were the sessions on resume writing extremely beneficial but I also enjoyed the discussions at home regarding professional work ethics and attitudes." - Parent

"Programs such as this provide valuable work experience to students. Such experience builds both resumes and character, and it has been a pleasure to have a part in helping a young person grow both professionally and personally." - Sponsor

"With the costs rising for higher education, college-bound students need a clear vision of what their chosen career will be. I can think of no other avenue to help them make this critical decision than the Executive Internship Program." - Sponsor