To bridge the gap between academics and the workforce, the Bridge Beyond Carolina program provides graduate students with paid summer experiential learning opportunities in non-academic settings such as business, government, healthcare, technology, and more.

Bridge Beyond Carolina is an investment in graduate student professional growth and a platform for developing a pipeline of well-prepared, aspiring professionals ready to support the needs of our state.

**BENEFITS OF HOSTING AN INTERN**

- **Lower costs**—high-performing summer interns cost less than full-time employees
- **Innovation and excitement**—fresh energy, ideas, experience, and perspective
- **Increased productivity**—solving short-term and/or cyclical workforce needs while reducing workload for full-time staff
- **Staff development**—managing/mentoring a student intern provides great experience and growth for your employees
- **Discovering potential full-time hires**—hiring interns after graduation saves time and money on recruitment and training
- **Supporting our state**—investing in the development of student and talent pipelines for the North Carolina workforce and beyond
- **Building your employer brand**—enhancing your organization’s visibility, reputation, and potential influence on campus and with recruiting efforts

**BENEFITS OF BEING AN INTERN**

- **Experience**—internships provide industry relevance and real-world experience
- **Exploration**—gain exposure to your field of interest and various organizations to explore career possibilities and places to work
- **Skill development**—advance your skill set, develop new ones, and test what you have already learned
- **Networking**—build your professional network with colleagues and partners

**CONTACT**

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EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Internships should provide meaningful experiential learning aligned with student and program goals while giving interns real workplace exposure. Clear communication and expectations help to align all involved.

The host organization will provide:
• A summer internship that lasts at least 160 hours
• A detailed job description and clear communication of requirements and schedules
• Adequate onboarding, training, supervision, and inclusion in organizational culture
• A designated supervisor/mentor that provides feedback and support
• Networking, speaker series, and/or other professional development opportunities
• Meaningful work assignments and learning experiences that balance both hard and soft skill development
• Adherence to labor laws and ethical treatment

The Graduate School at UNC-Chapel Hill will:
• Match students to opportunities and funds in consultation with the host organization
• Review the host organization’s job description
• Conduct progress checks and evaluate intern performance
• Host networking events to actively engage host organizations with students

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