



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

Faculty of Science



# International Internship in Environment

The International Internship in Environment provides masters students with the opportunity to gain real experience working with an organisation based in another country. Students gain exposure to a different cultural setting and are encouraged to think critically about the nature of the relationship between theory and practice. In turn, host organisations can engage with ambitious and enthusiastic students who'll soon be entering the workforce.

Students spend approximately 200 hours (five weeks) in their host organisation gaining experience, shadowing mentors and working on discrete projects. Students will complete a range of academic assessment tasks including a reflective journal which are assessed by the academic coordinator of the subject.

**“It was a pleasure to have an intern complete her placement with us. The student had a strong understanding of how to address policy questions and subsequently make use of qualitative evidence to critically analyse complex issues pertaining to environmental policy. Coupled with her strong writing skills and her ability to craft a narrative, the intern put forth compelling research that greatly contributed to the research mandate of our organisation.”**

Industry Partner, 2018

## What can organisations expect from an intern?

- **Experience:** The internship is available to students studying science and environmental streams.
- **Competence:** Students will be prepared to undertake office-based tasks, such as data entry and literature searches, as well as laboratory and field-based activities as required.
- **Motivation:** Students must find their own internship, with support from the subject coordinator and University's Careers & Industry Team, and participate in a selection process prior to subject commencement.
- **Employability:** Students are work-ready and seeking to make an impact. Even for organisations that are unlikely to be recruiting in the immediate future, internship placements offer an opportunity to excite the next generation, increasing the likelihood that high-quality employees will be available going forward.
- **Academic support:** Students will be supported by academic staff based at the University of Melbourne during the internship.

Find out more: [science.unimelb.edu.au](https://science.unimelb.edu.au)

## What will interns expect of their host organisation?

- An authentic, meaningful workplace experience.
- Induction, supervision and mentoring from experienced staff within the organisation.
- A safe working environment.
- We ask that you complete an Internship Placement and Risk Assessment form before the internship commences. This document will be given to the student once their internship has been secured.
- A brief student evaluation at the conclusion of their internship.

## Important information:



**Duration:** Internships involve a placement of approximately 200 hours (five weeks) in a single organisation. Internships are available throughout the year.



**Reimbursement:** Internships are generally unpaid, as they form a core component of study embedded in the students' curriculum. This meets the requirements of a 'vocational placement' in accordance with the Fair Work Act 2009. Organisations with the capacity to contribute to travel or living expenses are welcome to do so.



**Insurance:** As the internship is unpaid, Worker's Compensation does not apply. Students are covered comprehensively against accident or injury under the University's student insurance policy. The University maintains Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance that covers any liability of the University and the students in relation to the placement, and host organisations are also expected to maintain appropriate Public Liability insurance.



**Agreements:** A formal agreement will be established between the University and the host organisation.



**Occupational Health & Safety:** Host organisations must have a commitment to safe work practices, such as a formal OH&S Plan, and comply with the OH&S Act (VIC) 2004. Any disagreements, incidents or near accidents must be reported promptly to the International Internship in Environment Subject Coordinator.



**Intellectual Property:** Host organisations continue to own any pre-existing intellectual property made available for use by University staff or students during the course of the internship. Such pre-existing intellectual property is made available for the sole purpose and duration of the internship.



**Contact us: Careers & Industry Team**

Faculty of Science

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