

Undergraduates – The Benefits of Work Experience

Work experience is highly recommended when you are studying, as it allows you to work in an industry, develop your skills and give you a chance to be remembered whilst putting theory into practice.

Sandwich placements, internships and voluntary work will enhance your CV and demonstrate your pro-active state of mind; employers will be impressed that you gained industry understanding during your studies prior to obtaining a graduate role.

All Step internships and placements are **paid**, as we believe that whilst you are enhancing your skills, you should be paid to do so. You can find out more about our current opportunities <u>here</u>.

Things to Consider

Relocating

- If a placement is in a different city, think about how easy it would be for you to relocate.
- Consider the cost, the convenience and how easily you would settle in a new area.
- Budget whilst on placement; put money aside for food, travel and accommodation.
- Research and look for properties with short-term contracts, e.g. rightmove.co.uk, easyroommate.com and spareroom.co.uk.
- If you are commuting, plan your route and calculate how long it will take you to get to your placement: the key is to plan ahead.

Time

- Think about the long-term: how long you can commit to a placement for and if you have any other commitments, such as holidays, etc.
- Think about potentially being offered a permanent position after your placement and if this is what you want.

Why?

- There is a strong possibility that work experience will lead to a permanent position upon completion of your placement.
- You will gain an understanding of an industry and will meet new people, which will expand your professional network.
- The main reason for work experience is to gain transferable skills and have a chance to stand out in a company.
- A placement looks impressive on your CV and will provide you with worthy references for future roles.

All our placements and internships at Step are project-focused, which gives you the chance to develop something new within a company.

You can read blogs about Step placements and internships from students themselves here.