

Creating an Environment for a Successful Remote/Virtual Environment

Remote/virtual internships may have found a new acceptance and longer-term place in the college curriculum than a temporary solution to a public health crisis. If a virtual internship seems to be in your future, consider these tips and guidelines for negotiating a safe, work-based learning experience.

- Identify a project or internship program that:
- Clearly defines expectations; presents a written work plan
- Identifies a supervisor with a background in your field of study or professional interest
- Complements/supports your learning objectives
- Benefits your professional development
- Establishes a mentoring environment and includes regular check points with a mentor
- Equips you with tech/tools for the job and provides free training
- Allows insight into a professional culture through staff meetings, training sessions, etc.
- Includes other team members and a well-balanced experience of the overall organization

Additional benefits may include time and project management; organization; research and analysis; communication across multiple platforms; Internet literacy; global and intercultural literacy through distant and diverse workplaces. Further, by working independently you become more self-directed, learn to manage and complete projects without constant supervision, thus gaining more confidence in your own work production.

Once you accept an internship, be sure to use the other internship resources on the Career Center's website to maximize your internship experience. Working from home does not mean you have to be isolated! It just requires some creativity. And, you eliminate commuting costs and reduce your carbon footprint, so it's good for your wallet and the environment! By going remote, you just may be virtually struck with new opportunities for experiential learning.