

Finding Your Calling: Writing for Internships

Internship Opportunities for Tennessee State University students

For those who attended the seminar, you heard the success stories of Tiara Hudson and Hailee B. Roye, who used the services of the TSU Career Development Center to find and score internships.

<http://www.tnstate.edu/careers/experiential/internship.aspx>

Your first step as a TSU student is to avail yourself of opportunities only available to you, and you find those connections through the Career Development Center and the link above.

We briefly discussed TigerTrack, interCONNECT, and Internship Listing Guide and look some of the opportunities here. We researched majors of students attending the seminar, showing what opportunities they could research and apply for.

We also discussed **job shadowing**.

<http://www.tnstate.edu/>

Go to the Search TSU box in the upper right hand corner and type in *internship* and hit ENTER.

You will find different TSU webpages that contain internship information. If you find the links out of date, then just google the internship possibility to see if the program is being offered in 2018.

http://www.tnstate.edu/cpsua/find_jobs_and_internships.aspx

Job or internships for the College of Public Service

<http://www.tnstate.edu/careers/documents/Graduate%20School%20Page%201.pdf>

Internships for graduate school students

<http://www.tnstate.edu/ceed/internships.asp>

Internships for Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED)

http://www.tnstate.edu/Communications/internship_program.aspx

Internship program for Communications majors

http://www.tnstate.edu/tlsamp/opp_info.aspx

Scholarship and internship opportunities compiled by Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP)

<http://www.tnstate.edu/business/internships.aspx>

College of Business internships

The following links were chosen from what I found by typing in *internship* into the Search field.

Writing Techniques to Help You Find Your Calling and/or Find an Internship

1. Let the World's Need Meet My Talents Technique

a. Quickly write down 3 problems in the world you are worried about or concerned about.

Next, find organizations close to you or where you want to be (such as New York City or Nashville or Chicago or Memphis) that deal with those problems.

<http://www.211.org/>

You can explore the 211 database to explore agencies or programs you can volunteer for or intern at in any part of the United States.

<https://www.cnm.org/>

If you are in the Middle Tennessee area, you can use the Nonprofit Job Postings (found on the right hand side of the webpage) found on the Center for Nonprofit Management (CNM) website.

The Center for Nonprofit Management teaches nonprofits how to run and work more efficiently, so you might even consider volunteering for it, as one of our former TSU students did who later established a nonprofit.

Then, create a plan on how you are going to present yourself.

Create a 1-3 minute speech telling who you are and what you wish to give (this is sometimes called an elevator speech). The TSU Career Center can help you with this.

Now, find a way to write or talk or connect with the organization.

2. Be Creative—Create Your Own Unpaid Internship

<http://www.oneweekjob.com/>

From website: **Between Feb 2007 and March 2008, Sean Aiken completed an epic journey around North America, working 52 jobs in 52 weeks.**

Sean Aiken graduated from college and didn't know what he wanted to do for a career (or what he wanted to do with his life). Instead of take the first job that came along, he found a unique way of figuring it out: **The One Week Job Project.**

How it worked: Anyone, anywhere, could offer Sean a job for one week. Any money he earned for the work, he asked the employer to donate towards the ONE /

Make Poverty History campaign. **Total earned = \$20,401.60**
(<http://www.oneweekjob.com/about-the-project/>)

How can you adopt this idea to fit you?

Perhaps you can't afford to give up 4 weeks or 6 weeks to an unpaid internship, but you might be able to help for a week or a weekend.

Be creative. Don't let your perceptions trap you into doing the ordinary.

Volunteer for a weekend, a day, two days, three days, two or four hours—consider what you can do and then do it.

3. Journal and Reflect

You can use a journal to collect your thoughts, write down quotes, record your successes, question the world, struggle with ideas and dreams, think about why something happened to you and how it might fit in with your larger story.

Writing in a journal is a good practice to help you get your ideas upon paper.

If you succeed in achieving something, record it. Write down the details. When you are struggling or feeling you can't go on, refer back to this success or successes. This idea comes from Mark Victor Hansen, but he actually talks about keeping a success journal.

Jim Rohn writes, "Use the past as a schoolhouse, not a 2x4" and "Seek other people's advice, but don't take orders. And don't take 100% of anyone's advice. Make sure every decision you make is a product of your own conclusion. Be a student, not a follower."

Use your past as something you learn from instead of something you beat yourself up about. Choose to not be trapped in your past, in repeating patterns, but instead choose to reflect and to ponder about your past, and think of what you can learn from that past.

To paraphrase Jim Rohn, you do not have to live your next six years as you did your last six years. You can choose to make changes, starting slowly, making course corrections.

Think about what you have done over the last 90 days, or the first three months of the year. Reflecting on what you did, who you saw, what worked for you, what didn't work for you, and then analyze what you wrote.

Now, can you put the past 90 days' experience into the next 4 weeks? Or the next 90 days? Can you keep what you like and start changing what is making you drift away from where you want to go?

Use your journal to reflect and make plans.

Spend about an hour reflecting—you don't have to do this at one time, just keep track of the time, and write down observations over several days. You can spend more time, but for now, just try an hour.

Also, look for advice and try it out; see what is useful and what is not; modify and course correct if necessary to fit your temperament and style.

If you are a student, you explore, you test, and you discover; try not to follow blindly, but take action and choose to take action based on your own conclusions.

Realize you do not need to have all the answers, but you can seek the answers and allow some things to remain mysteries.

Make mistakes and be tolerant of yourself; you are learning and you must make mistakes in order to learn and to move forward.

4. Try this Writing Exercise suggested by Warren Buffett, billionaire

<https://bit.ly/2HqJ2WU>

Daniel H. Pink discusses “Life Advice from Warren Buffett,” a minute and 21 second video that could change your life; remember, you choose what to follow, how you wish to take advice; modify as necessary to fit you and your style.

Internship Information and Databases

<https://www.internqueen.com/>

<https://www.looksharp.com/>

<https://www.wayup.com/>

<http://www.internships.com/>

<http://freefashioninternships.com/>

<http://www.idealists.org/>

<https://www.internmatch.com/>

<https://www.mediabistro.com/>

<https://www-dev.experience.com/advice/>

<https://www.usajobs.gov/> --for jobs and internships with the federal government

<https://www.coolworks.com/>

These internship information and databases comes from the following two articles. The articles contain more websites you might want to check out.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/karstenstrauss/2017/02/02/the-best-websites-and-strategies-for-finding-an-internship-in-2017/#6304156e2075>

The following article on Forbes.com, “**The Best Websites—and Strategies—for Finding an Internship in 2017,**” dated February 2, 2017, wherein Karsten Strauss interviews **Lauren Berger, founder and head of InternQueen.com.**

I have listed internqueen.com first because Lauren seems to have some good advice for finding internships.

<https://www.collegemagazine.com/10-best-websites-finding-internship/>

“The 10 Best Websites for Internships” by Elizabeth Alvarado, dated July 13, 2017, contains more than 10 websites.

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/2018/03/20/7-secrets-to-landing-your-first-college-internship/>

7 Secrets to Landing Your First College Internship

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/2018/01/23/internships-all-you-need-to-know/>

Internships: All You Need to Know!

The following two blog posts are by Jessica Velasco of JLV College Counseling, who runs a top-notch website.

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/scholarships/>

*****Sidenote: To find scholarships, search out JLV College Counseling's list of scholarships and contests. These are scholarships that can be searched by major, age/grade level, minority, gender, military, etc.**

I love this website and I have found several scholarships, which I have featured in presentations and the Scholarship Tigers blog from the above website.

<http://hbcuconnect.com/scholarships/>

HBCUConnect.com Scholarship/Grant Directory—you need to sign up for this directory to have access

<https://www.dhs.gov/homeland-security-careers/students>

Dept of Homeland Security has several internships and scholarship opportunities

<https://www.sfs.opm.gov/>

CyberCorps

<http://www.naceweb.org/job-market/internships/the-positive-implications-of-internships-on-early-career-outcomes/>

“The Positive Implications of Internships on Early Career Outcomes,” May 1, 2017, by Nathalie Saltikoff—interesting article

Financing an Unpaid Internship

There are several articles, ideas, and sources about how to finance an unpaid internship.

1. <http://www.fastweb.com/career-planning/articles/maybe-you-can-get-paid-for-an-unpaid-internship>

This article lists several different ideas about how to finance an unpaid internship.

2. <https://www.internqueen.com/blog/2015/02/12-great-resources-finding-scholarship-information>

Article from Lauren Berger, the Intern Queen, on 12 great resources for finding scholarships on paid internships during the summer.

3. <http://barudolphfoundation.org/>

From website: **“The B.A. Rudolph Foundation offers scholarships for women seeking unpaid internships in public service and the sciences, as well as a mentorship program and networking opportunities.**

The B.A. Rudolph Foundation is committed to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, we are particularly dedicated to reaching and supporting a broad spectrum of qualified women who have diverse backgrounds, experiences, ability and perspectives.”

The deadline for this opportunity may have passed, but become aware of it so you can use the information for next year.

4. <http://blog.nwf.org/2017/01/how-to-find-funding-for-unpaid-internships/>

A January 26, 2017, article, “How to Find Funding for Unpaid Internships” by Elizabeth Morgan

5. <http://www.hercampus.com/career/job-advice/how-afford-unpaid-internship>

A blog post by Jada Green posted on March 11, 2015, “How to Afford An Unpaid Internship”

6. <https://www.thebalance.com/ways-you-can-afford-to-do-an-unpaid-internship-1986839>

An article updated on July 1, 2016, by Penny Loretto, “Ways You Can Afford to do an Unpaid Internship”

I found the following articles by googling, “scholarships for unpaid internships.” You can find more articles like this by using the same search terms.

Also, let google suggest other search terms, such as “funding your internship,” “money for unpaid internships,” or “internship grants for students.”

Scholarships You May Want to Know About (just because you like money instead of debt)

<https://www.shawncartersf.com/scholarship-fund/>

Shawn Carter/Jay Z Foundation Scholarship

Opens April, 2017

Deadline: April 30, 2017

“All high school seniors, students with GED diplomas, undergraduate (2yr or 4yr) college students, and students at vocational or trade schools who meet the requirements below are eligible.

Requirements:

US citizen or Permanent Resident

25 years old or younger

Minimum 2.0 GPA”

“The Shawn Carter Foundation (SCF) was founded on the belief that any motivated individual in need should have the opportunity to further his or her education. By removing some of the financial burdens associated with going to,

surviving in, and graduating from college, the SCF plays a vital role in increasing college access and success for many motivated yet underserved youth and young adults.”

Under Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s),

“How can I maximize my chances of receiving this scholarship?

Here are some steps you can take:

1-Start your application early and complete it on time. The earlier you start the application, the better chance you have to submit the application before the deadline. You also have more time to ask us questions in case any part of the process needs clarification.

2-Tell us about yourself and use specific details when sharing your extracurricular activities. We do not know anything about you until you share it with us. Specific details can help us understand how great you are. The same can be said about your essay. We don’t expect the essay to run too long but make sure your essay helps us learn more about you and your perspectives.

3-Review your application for grammar and spelling errors”

<https://www.aspirehigherscholarships.com/>

Up to \$10,000 Aspire Higher Ortho Dermatologics Scholarship, D: April 28, 2018

applied to tuition expenses only, 9 awards

Selected criteria from webpage:

“9 College Scholarships up to \$10,000 each for 2018-2019 tuition costs
Categories

3 Undergraduate Scholar Awards—for students pursuing undergraduate degrees

3 Graduate Scholar Awards—for students pursuing graduate degrees

3 Today's Woman Scholar Awards—for students who are mothers pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees

Determine the scholarship category that fits your academic status. You may only apply within one category. Students pursuing technical/vocational degrees or certificates may be eligible. See Rules & Regulations.

You may be eligible if you:

- Are a United States citizen living in the United States
- At the time of application, have applied to, have been accepted to, or are currently attending an accredited, nonprofit, two- or four-year college, university, or advanced (post-high school) vocational or technical school for academic year 2018-2019
- Have been diagnosed with and treated for a dermatologic condition
- Have been treated by a dermatologist, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner working in a dermatology practice
- Used a prescription medicine to treat your dermatologic condition*

*Applicants need not have used an Ortho Dermatologics prescription medicine. Use of an Ortho Dermatologics product will not increase an applicant's chance of being awarded a scholarship”

<http://www.getupgetactive.org/active-life-weakness/>

\$1,000 Active Life Scholarship to Tackle Your Weakness, D: May 31, 2018

Selected criteria: “Who: Current high school or college students age 15 years or older.

What: This scholarship encourages students to identify and take action to improve a weakness and begin to transform it into a strength.

Amount: \$1,000. May be used at any college to study any major

Short Answer

In 3-5 sentences please answer ONE of the following: *What do you consider one of your greatest weaknesses? -OR- Why is it important to try to improve a weakness?*”

<https://www.foreclosure.com/scholarship/>

\$2,500 and \$500 Foreclosure.com Scholarship Program, Deadline: Dec 15, 2018

Selected criteria from website:

“2018 essay topic:

Discuss the pros and cons of renting versus homeownership.

Is renting just a short-term solution before homeownership? Or has America just taken the easier way out with renting and homeownership is dying with Millennials. Discuss what factors could increase or decrease homeownership among the generation, is it a location, financial or culture issue?

Currently enrolled college students (graduate students, law students and/or high school seniors are NOT eligible) are invited to apply by submitting an essay. Freshman entering Fall 2017 are eligible once they have received a student ID number. Plagiarism is strictly forbidden. Essays that are not the original work of the entrant will be immediately discarded and eliminated from consideration.

Five Winners will be selected.

Top prize, \$2,500

Second and third prize will receive \$500 each

Text requirements: Minimum: 800 words, Maximum: 2000 words”

Past Handouts are Chock Filled with Scholarships and Money Opportunities

<https://tigerscholars.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/parent-and-teen-summit-memphis-tn-21-march-2018.pdf>

<https://tigerscholars.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/tsu-university-foundation-scholarships-seminar-march-1-2018.pdf>

<https://tigerscholars.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/writing-for-scholarships-feb-14-2018.pdf>

<https://tigerscholars.files.wordpress.com/2017/12/writing-for-scholarships-more-than-20000-dollars-potential-updated.pdf>

These following handouts were created between December 2017 and April 2018. If you find some of the scholarships out of date, google to see the new date.

All handouts can be found at the Scholarship Tigers blog:

<https://scholarshiptigers.com/>

How to Receive Entire Blog Entries from ScholarshipTigers.com as They are Published

<https://scholarshiptigers.com/>

On the right hand side of the webpage, scroll down until you see the words, EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION.

If you enter your email address and click on the box, Sign me up, you should receive an email, and then all you have to do is confirm it.

You will then receive updates with scholarships and clues so that you can discover more college money and aim for less student debt.

You will receive the text of the entire blog post, and I try to blog as much as I can.

Tennessee State University Writing Center

<https://tnstate.mywconline.com/>

The above link is the scheduling system, which you can register for to make appointments in the TSU Writing Center, Math Center, or Reading Center, if you are a Tennessee State University student.

The TSU Writing Center, located in room 310 in the Student Success Center, is available to help you become a better writer.

We help all students: from undergraduate to graduate.

Also, as a Tennessee State University student, you can sign up to have a scholarship coaching appointment with Mr. Mike Turner.

About Mike Turner

I have been giving seminars on how to use the Internet to find scholarships since 1996, about the time Fastweb.com became more common.

I have served as a writing tutor/instructor in my current position at Tennessee State University since 1999. I also help students find scholarships and other opportunities to help pay for college as a scholarship coach. A Scholarship Tigers report is where I take the student's information such as age, major, GPA, future career goals, interests, and hobbies, and we look for scholarships, internships, and other opportunities that fit him or her and his or her major.

Some students I have coached have received the Gates Millennium Scholarship, the Teddy Wilburn scholarship, Bryan A. Collins Memorial Scholarship, among others. I point out the opportunity, but students have to take action by applying and getting the material together.

My hope is for students to graduate with less college debt and more money.

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