



Article

Jersey

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JEP Careers supplement: Jersey

Interning helps hone key life skills, in and out of the office.

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Although a well-established industry contributing half of the Island's tax revenues and representing a fifth of Jersey's total workforce, Jersey's finance sector is an increasingly sophisticated and diverse environment to work in. Moves into specialist areas supporting people and businesses across new and exciting overseas markets has meant that a job in the modern finance industry isn't just for those who are good at maths, but for those with a much broader range of skills too.

The good news is that more and more opportunities in Jersey are open to young people in this dynamic industry. In the 2015 Survey of Financial Institutions, figures for 2014 showed that 390 local staff were recruited straight from school or university, the highest number since the early 1990s.

One way of landing a job out of university is to undertake an internship with an Island firm, and this is becoming an increasingly popular route. Not only does it get your foot in the door of a reputable firm and the industry as a whole, but it equips you with the right skills to take away and put on your CV for whatever career you may choose.

If an intern really fits in well with the company, then they might stand a better chance of being offered further training and full-time employment. At Deutsche Bank we feel immense satisfaction from seeing those particularly talented young minds thrive and progress within the Bank, nurtured through our own internship scheme.

Deutsche Bank has been offering a Summer Internship Programme for many years, creating a well-established, niche opportunity for local undergraduates looking for a unique and rewarding work experience. The programme offers a structured, comprehensive introduction to working for a global institution where candidates are given the opportunity to spend a ten-week period with a specific team, are assigned a personal mentor during that time, and are also encouraged to work together on a charity fund-raising challenge.

This year, the Channel Islands offices welcomed ten ambitious and enthusiastic students who have been reading a wide variety of university degrees, such as Archaeology & History, International Tourism Management, Economics, Engineering, and Aerospace Engineering, reflecting the diversity of people and skills at the Bank.

Skills

Whilst for some, an internship might conjure up visions of hours standing by a photocopier, this is most definitely not the case at Deutsche Bank. We want our interns to leave equipped with practical skills which will carry them forward with confidence, including organisational skills, strong social skills, and the ability to focus on a task and execute it effectively. Of course, for those genuinely interested in finance, interns gain an invaluable head-start when it comes to building up knowledge of the industry itself.

Working across varied and different areas and divisions of the Bank, each intern is given a mentor for the duration of their placement to help them find their place in the team and get over any challenges they encounter, differentiating it from other internship programs. Students agree that this structured approach and opportunity to be given real work that contributes genuinely to their team's success over the course of their ten weeks has given them a rewarding experience.

At Deutsche Bank, these skills are not purely taught through time in the office, but we like to make the experience a little more fun by setting interns the task of running a charity fund-raising effort, together as a team, throughout the summer. Not only does this align with the Bank's commitment to supporting the local community and charitable causes, but it is a memorable and enjoyable learning experience for the interns as well.

This year, the Jersey and Guernsey interns put in a momentous effort and raised over £10,000 for local charities. The eight interns in Jersey chose Autism Jersey as their recipient and the two interns in Guernsey chose Guernsey Alzheimer's Association.

Fund raising activities included holding a quiz night, a bikeathon and an office tuck-shop in Jersey, whilst in Guernsey the interns arranged amongst other things a sponsored walk and a soup kitchen. Together with the Bank's Matched Giving scheme, the interns raised around £7,000 in Jersey and around £3,000 in Guernsey.

For the interns, knowing that they have done a good job for local, deserving causes is the most rewarding aspect of the process, but there are other benefits too. By working together to come up with various challenges and schemes they learn how to work effectively as a team, a skill which will most certainly apply to any job that they do in the future. Once having decided how to raise the money, they then need to ensure that it is well organised and properly carried out.

Andrew Tautscher, Guernsey intern, said: "I have learnt much more generally about working in a financial institution and the regulations and departments that are not easy to understand externally. I have improved my time-keeping and multi-tasking abilities due to working to a deadline. The team I worked with are mainly project-based, so I worked on a plethora of assignments, including redesigning the 'myDeutscheBank' (web)page for the Global Trust Solutions Channel Island team"

Students also find that it helps them on a more personal level, by building their confidence, which can be useful in and out of work, and boosting self-esteem, thus increasing their chances of success in finding themselves a suitable career.

Harvey Doolan, Jersey intern, also commented: "I was rather shy before starting the internship and this has definitely boosted my self-confidence. Additionally, I have also learnt how to cope with working in an office environment, which I found rather challenging during the first few weeks, as I was not used to working at desk for seven hours of the day"

What's next?

The best outcome for Deutsche Bank running this Summer Internship Programme is that the students go on to find suitable careers, and we have a strong success rate when it comes to our interns finding exciting opportunities as a result of their internships; for example, one Jersey intern successfully applied for a 2015 internship within the Bank's Corporate Finance division in London and was offered a place on Deutsche Bank's Global Graduate program after his university studies.

The current job marketplace is competitive but Deutsche Bank is committed to nurturing the business leaders of tomorrow. If you're an undergraduate and would like to take part in a unique

scheme with a leading organisation that will set you up for success in the future, you can register your interest now by sending a copy of your CV to helen.shoreson@db.com. Interviews for Deutsche Bank's 2017 internship program will take place around Easter-time.