



Article

Jersey

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Gallery

Internships: confidence-building, rewarding, invaluable

Good news - jobs for young people in Jersey's finance industry are on the up. More than 300 school leavers and students were employed by the industry last year, the biggest overall annual intake in six years.

Whilst this is a positive story in terms of there being more opportunities for students at local firms, it also reflects just how many students are looking for work in the industry – and that there is still an incredible amount of competition for prime positions. The need to 'stand out from the crowd' is as important as ever, and internships are a proven way to do just that.

For some years, Deutsche Bank's Summer Internship Program has been offering a structured, comprehensive introduction to working for a global institution. Depth, focus and support are key to a successful internship and, at Deutsche Bank, candidates are given the opportunity to spend a full ten-week period with a specific team and are assigned a personal mentor during that time.

The Bank looks to recruit bright, enthusiastic and ambitious people for the Program and this summer, its Jersey office welcomed eleven such people, all working in different areas of the business:

Alex Pitter, who is studying Mathematics at the University of Birmingham; Alexander Cornish, currently studying Economics at the University College of London; Charlotte Galvin, taking Business and Management at Highlands College; Darcie Aubert, who is in her second year of a History degree at Queen Mary, University of London; Dominic Samphier, who is studying History at Durham University; Eve Malet de Carteret, currently studying Cultures, Histories and Literature at Brighton University; James Powell, who is studying at the London School of Economics; Jamie Wilson, a student in Computer Science at the University of St Andrews; Lewis Young, who is studying Economics at the University of York; Lindsay Ellis, currently studying Geography and

International Development at the University of Sussex; and Katie Gouyette, who is in her final year of a degree in Business and Hispanic Studies at the University of Liverpool.

Responsibility

To get the most out of the experience, the interns are encouraged to take on certain responsibilities, and manage their own tasks throughout the ten-week period.

Once again, this year's intake had the opportunity to get involved in projects of real importance to Deutsche Bank, as Alexander, who worked in the Risk Management department, explains:

"I worked on a wide variety of tasks, ranging from reviewing local procedures against Group Policy and regulations, to dealing with scenarios which arose within the Bank on a reactionary basis. The Bank also encourages interns to learn about other departments, so I used the opportunity to find out more about the Financial Intermediaries department, Finance, and also Corporate Finance in London."

Darcie adds:

"A difference between the Deutsche Bank internship and other internships is that at Deutsche Bank you feel as though you are being given work that is actually valuable and that you have your own responsibilities within your department."

In addition, throughout the scheme there is a clear support system in place, and regular contact with a senior mentor who ensures each intern gets the most out of their experience and builds up vital contacts.

Skills

The ultimate aim of the program is to ensure that at the end of their placement, participants are better placed to compete in today's tough job market. This involves learning new skills and gaining new experiences both in and out of the office, as well as building on skills acquired at university, as Dominic says:

"Not only have I developed office etiquette, but learning how to communicate in an office, whether it be via telephone, email, or in-person, has been a skill I have also developed, and that I believe will prepare me for future work."

“My confidence definitely increased working at Deutsche Bank,” adds Lindsay. “I now have more self-assurance in my abilities to meet deadlines, produce good work under pressure and take on roles of responsibility in the workplace.”

Beyond time in the office, the interns also got involved in a community project – raising around £6,500 through various fundraising activities for the Youth Enquiry Service (YES). Darcie explains:

“The charity events were a particular highlight for me. Over the ten weeks, I was quizmaster for a round of the pub quiz, pushed employees to buy chocolates and sweets from the tuck shop, offered bag packing services at the Co-Op and did lots of shifts at our Bike-a-Thon!”

The interns were also encouraged to participate in various team building activities, and organised a social event to help them get to know each other outside of the work environment.

Confidence

The current job marketplace is really competitive but Deutsche Bank is committed to nurturing the business leaders of tomorrow by giving them the skills and confidence they need, as Charlotte says:

“My experience has definitely improved my confidence. I would definitely recommend going for it - it looks great on your CV, it improves your networking circle and gives you loads of new skills.”

Katie agrees: “You won’t find any other intern schemes that offer a placement with this amount of responsibility within such a highly reputable business. It’s a very unique scheme that will undoubtedly set you up for success in the future.”

Jersey undergraduates are invited to register their interest in next year’s internship scheme by sending a copy of their CV to hollie.dougan@db.com. They will then be sent details of an introductory event about the scheme to be held during the Easter holidays, at which they will be able to meet some of the 2014 interns and find out more about the 2015 program. The interview process for the 2015 summer placements will also take place during the Easter break.

Ends.