

SUMMER INTERNSHIP ALTERNATIVES



Employment - This option can allow students the opportunity to get paid and grow professional skills. Even if it's not an internship in your field, students can still highlight transferable skills on their resume.

Volunteering - This is a great way for students to pursue their interests and potentially help a cause while learning new tasks. Many organizations allow students to volunteer remotely now. Pitch your volunteering idea to an organization and try to find a way that it can match the skills you are learning from your major. Make sure you set a realistic volunteering schedule and let the employer know if you can only work a few hours each week.

Academic Experiences - This could be summer courses or diving in to some academic research or independent studies. Students can look for research opportunities at WCU or at other colleges. Some colleges post research opportunities online.

Networking - Because students may have more time over summer break, it's helpful to use that time to reach out and network. This means connecting with friends, family and other professionals in careers related to their industry. Students can conduct informational interviews to learn about different jobs or industries.

Shadowing - This could be in-person or virtual shadowing when students view what it is like "on the job" for a day or a few hours with a professional in the role they are interested in. This could involve sitting in on meetings, getting a tour of the organization, or getting a chance to see some of the projects people are working on at the company.