

Basic Science Student Internship Program University of Colorado School of Medicine

The Departments of Cell and Developmental Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, and Pharmacology are basic science departments within the University of Colorado School of Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

The departments offer internships to provide work experience that directly relates to an intern's major field of study. Internships provide an opportunity for students to explore and apply academic theory in the professional world. In the process, interns develop new skills and gain valuable real-world knowledge that sets them apart from other applicants upon graduation. The interns may participate in academic / for credit internships, or not-for-credit / non-academic internships. A student enrolled in the spring or fall semester of school may participate in a summer internship.

Academic/For Credit Internships vs. Not-For-Credit/Non-Academic Internships

	Academic/For Credit	Not-For-Credit/Non-Academic
Academic Credit	Student earns academic credit	No academic credit offered
Compensation	Paid and unpaid opportunities. If unpaid, volunteer waiver is required.	Paid and unpaid opportunities. If unpaid, volunteer waiver is required.
GPA Requirement	Minimum GPA – 3.0	Minimum GPA - 3.0
# of Hours Required	Typically part-time: 4-12 hours per week for a minimum of 10 weeks. Summer can be full-time. Student must complete a minimum of 135 hours of work.	Approximately 135 hours of work over a semester
Length of Experience	Typically 1 semester. Offered Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters	May continue for multiple semesters. Students often are given progressively more challenging assignments.
University Requirements	Complete Learning Agreement, academic assignments, and internship evaluation	Complete Learning Agreement and internship evaluation as well as waiver
Supervision	Faculty Sponsor	Faculty Sponsor
Cost	Students pay regular tuition for the appropriate number of credits	No cost to student
Employer Evaluation	Required	Required

Requirements for a University internship are the following:

- The position must be a learning experience directly related to the intern’s academic field of study.
- At least 80% of the work must consist of professional or pre-professional work assignments related to students’ majors and/or career goals.
- An experienced professional with expertise in the content area of the internship (i.e. the “Faculty Sponsor”) must be assigned to supervise/mentor the intern student. This person trains the student as needed, monitors, and evaluates student’s work performance.
- Interns must be given an orientation to the laboratory, safety procedures, training, ongoing supervision, and evaluation.
- Interns must meet all necessary University requirements for these internships, which includes passing a background check, health and safety training, completion of volunteer waiver forms (if non-paid), and proof of health insurance (if non-paid), prior to working in the laboratories.
- Interns must have an appropriate workspace and tools with which to perform their duties (e.g. access to a computer, software, etc.).
- There are no requirements for the student to pay the employer in any form for any part of the experience.
- The length of the assignment is clearly defined.
- Frequent evaluation/feedback of the student’s performance will be provided by the supervisor.

By participating in the internship program, the faculty sponsor agrees to:

- Determine and discuss how the proposed internship is relevant to the student’s educational objectives and merits academic credit, if applicable.
- Assist interns in creating appropriate learning objectives to be met during the internship.
- Address all academic issues related to the internship.
- Provide interns with appropriate academic assignments related to the internship.
- Be available to the intern throughout the internship in order to appraise progress and address concerns and questions.
- Provide an evaluation at the end of the internship.

The intern agrees to:

- Fulfill those tasks and responsibilities assigned by the supervisor.
- Conduct him or herself in an ethical and professional manner.
- Notify the faculty sponsor in a timely manner of any changes to this agreement or if problems develop during the internship.

The intern and sponsor agree to the following terms of the learning agreement:

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION

Semester:	Fall	Spring	Summer	Year		
Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy)				End Date	Hours per week	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Credit Only</i> : # credits				<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Credit & Paid</i> : # credits	Pay rate/hour \$	

