

TIQC Virtual/Hybrid Internship

Overview

The Tech Incubator at Queens College (TIQC) offers a valuable virtual internship program for both college and high school students. The primary objective of this internship is to provide experiential learning and on-the-job training to students, regardless of their major or educational level. The program focuses on equipping students with highly sought-after digital skills such as website development, digital marketing, data analytics, and more.

In addition to technical skills, the internship also emphasizes the development of career-ready professional skills. These include effective communication, teamwork, and project management abilities, which are essential for success in any professional environment. By integrating these skills into the internship program, TIQC aims to prepare students for their future careers and enhance their overall employability.

During the internship, students will have the opportunity to work at TIQC and collaborate on various projects with entrepreneurs, startup founders, small business owners, non-profit organizations, and sponsoring corporations. This hands-on experience allows interns to apply their newly acquired digital skills in real-world scenarios and continue their learning journey while contributing to meaningful projects.

The virtual nature of the internship program enables flexibility and accessibility for students, allowing them to participate from anywhere with an internet connection. This feature is especially beneficial for high school students who may not have the same mobility as college students. By removing geographical limitations, TIQC strives to provide equal opportunities for students to gain valuable experience and enhance their skills.

Overall, the virtual internship program offered by TIQC is a comprehensive learning opportunity that combines technical training with professional skill development. It enables students to gain practical experience, build their portfolios, and enhance their career prospects, ultimately preparing them for the ever-evolving job market.

The internship program at TIQC can be described as either virtual or hybrid, depending on the specific arrangements and requirements.

The internship periods typically span from 4 to 10 weeks, allowing students to dedicate approximately 40 to 150 hours to their internship experience. The duration may vary depending on the specific internship opportunity and project requirements.



During the internship, students will receive comprehensive training that encompasses pre-internship, on-demand, and on-the-job components. This multi-faceted training approach ensures that interns are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in their assigned projects. The pre-internship training prepares students for the specific tasks and responsibilities they will undertake during their internship. On-demand training provides interns with access to learning resources and materials that they can utilize to enhance their skills and knowledge base. The on-the-job training component allows students to learn and develop while actively working on projects and collaborating with professionals.

Interns will also have access to the TIQC mentor network, which offers guidance and support throughout their internship journey. Mentors, who are experienced professionals in relevant fields, can provide valuable insights, advice, and mentorship to help interns navigate their projects and career development.

To assess the progress and outcomes of the internship experience, pre- and post-evaluation processes will be conducted with each student. These evaluations serve as valuable feedback mechanisms to gauge the interns' growth, skill development, and overall performance. The evaluations can help identify areas of improvement and ensure that the internship program continues to provide a meaningful and beneficial experience for participating students.

In summary, the virtual or hybrid internship program at TIQC provides students with a structured and supportive learning environment. It includes pre-internship training, on-demand and on-the-job training, access to mentors, and pre- and post-evaluations to ensure a comprehensive and impactful internship experience.

Capability Development

The pre-internship training, on-demand learning, on-the-job training, and mentoring provided through the virtual internship program at TIQC aim to develop a wide range of capabilities and skills in student interns. While the specific skills developed may vary depending on the student and their assigned projects, here are some examples of the capabilities and skills students can expect to enhance:

Professional Skills:

Workplace Communication and Etiquette: Students will learn effective communication strategies, including written and verbal communication, professional email etiquette, and presentation skills.

Collaboration in Teams: Interns will develop the ability to work effectively in team environments, fostering collaboration, active listening, and conflict resolution skills.



Time Management: Students will learn to prioritize tasks, manage their time efficiently, and meet project deadlines.

Agile Project Management: Interns will gain an understanding of agile methodologies, enabling them to adapt to changing project requirements and work in iterative cycles.

Customer Needs Assessment: Students will learn how to identify and understand customer needs, enabling them to develop customer-centric solutions.

Problem Reframing and Solution Proposal: Interns will learn to identify problems, analyze them from different perspectives, and propose innovative and viable solutions.

Technical Skills:

Basic Coding Skills: Non-computer science students will acquire foundational coding skills to understand programming concepts, logic, and problem-solving.

Design Concepts and Design Thinking: Students will be introduced to basic design principles, user experience (UX) design, and design thinking methodologies to create user-friendly solutions.

Website Design and Development: Interns will learn website development using tools like WordPress and PHP, gaining knowledge of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to build functional and visually appealing websites.

Social Media and Digital Marketing: Students will gain an understanding of social media platforms, digital marketing strategies, and tools to effectively promote products and services.

Data Analytics and Data Visualization: Interns will learn how to collect, analyze, and interpret data using tools and techniques to derive meaningful insights. They will also develop skills in data visualization to effectively communicate findings.

Programming Languages and Tools:

WordPress and PHP: Students will gain proficiency in building and customizing websites using WordPress and PHP.

HTML, CSS, JS: Students will learn the foundational web development languages HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to create interactive web pages.

Python: Students will acquire basic programming skills in Python, a versatile and widely-used language for various applications.



Mozilla Hubs WebXR: Web-based platform to create virtual reality, augmented reality and mixed reality objects and environments.

Tools for Collaboration and Communication:

Google Workplace: Interns will become familiar with Google Workspace tools such as Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Drive for efficient collaboration and document management.

Team Collaboration and Communication: Students will utilize tools such as Slack, Trello, Mural, and similar platforms to collaborate, manage tasks, and work efficiently within teams.

Video Conferencing: Interns will learn to effectively use video conferencing platforms like Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and Google Meet for remote meetings and communication.

Digital Marketing Tools:

Canva: Students will gain proficiency in using Canva, a graphic design tool, to create visually appealing marketing materials.

Hootsuite, Later, MailChimp, Eventbrite: Interns will learn to leverage platforms like Hootsuite, Later, MailChimp, and Eventbrite for social media scheduling, email marketing, and event management.

It's important to note that these are examples of the skills and tools that students may develop during the virtual internship program at TIQC. The specific skills acquired will depend on the individual student's interests, project assignments, and the evolving demands of the program.

For more information:

TIQC: <u>https://techincubatorqc.com</u> TIQC Internship: <u>https://interns.techincubatorqc.com/</u> TIQC Career Development Classes: <u>https://techincubatorqc.com/classes-workshops-for-career-development/</u>

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