

Top Tips for being successful for a Global Challenge Internship

1. Apply!

Don't be put off by thinking the internship will be popular, oversubscribed or too competitive – if you don't apply you'll never know. Many of this year's interns thought they wouldn't be successful, but applied anyway. Remember that these opportunities are *only* for University of Birmingham students so are nowhere near as competitive as the graduate job market. The application process alone is a valuable learning experience in any case.

2. Make a good application

Read the questions and stick to them when answering. Tell us why you want to intern with *this* company, and why *this* internship as opposed to any other. Don't focus too much of your application around the country you will be going to, mention how exciting it will be by all means, but we want the best candidate who can do well on the internship and who is interested in the company. Ensure you take advantage of our Application Support Advisors and CV checkers expert advice to give you the best chance. Go to

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/careers/index.aspx> to find out how you can book an appointment.

3. Research the Company

Be sure to mention the company in your application form and the role itself. Giving some evidence of your research in your application demonstrates your desire to work for them. If you are invited to an interview ensure you have researched the company you will be working for.

4. Research your costs

Students who take the time to research costs of flights and accommodation etc and can offer easy to follow information and evidence will do better at short listing. We realise costs will change a little if you are successful, but putting the time in shows us how much you want the internship.

5. Your CV

Make sure you provide a CV with your application that is *tailored* to the internship you are applying for. Your application will not proceed without one. This will be sent to the company to help them in their final selection so it's vital it's tailored.

6. Prepare for your interview

If you are invited for an interview make sure you attend the preparation training we provide for you first. It will give you lots of hints and tips on how to stand out and do well, useful for any interview you might also attend in the future. If you are invited for an interview with the company themselves, then book a practice interview appointment at

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/careers/index.aspx>

7. Seek information from the team

Come along to any of the events and drop in sessions being run by Careers Network. This is your chance to ask questions and find out more. Check out

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/careers/index.aspx> for more information. Alternatively email internships@contacts.bham.ac.uk

8. Read the blogs

If the internship you are applying for was available last year you will be able to read blogs from the student who took part. This might give you a valuable insight into the country and the company. Read them here

<https://careersbham.wordpress.com/category/global-challenge/>

9. Thinking of applying for more than one?

If you are interested in more than one of the internships, then apply for more. Different internships will be more competitive than others but do make sure your application and CV are tailored differently. Don't simply repeat the same information twice. This might seem time consuming but if you're successful it will be worth it.

10. Follow us through Social Media

To hear first hand about the internships as they join the Global Challenge Programme follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/careersbham](https://www.facebook.com/careersbham)) and Twitter [@careersbham](https://twitter.com/careersbham)