

Money, International Internships, & You

Similar to domestic internships, international internships can come in a variety of shapes, sizes, and formats. Positions can be in-person or remote, individualistic or cohort based, and may include additional travel over the course of the experience. Compensation is one of many important factors that helps you decide if an internship is a good fit for you. To learn more about how compensation factors into an international internship, check out some common questions and answers below!

What kind of compensation can I get?

Compensation can come in many forms, be it a stipend, salary, housing, academic credit, certificates, professional credentials, and of course the experience that you're able to put on your resume. When it comes to monetary compensation, there are a select number of international internships that offer salaries, paid in the form of cash, housing, meals, and/or travel costs, while a much larger proportion of internships are unpaid.

Why aren't there more paid internships?

Most countries have regulations when it comes to employing and paying foreign students. In some countries, sponsoring an international student like yourself is an expensive and time consuming process, which may require proof that a domestic student couldn't fulfil that role. While some organizations choose to navigate their respective requirements and offer paid internships, there are many who do not.

Why do some programs charge fees?

The exact details and specifics vary from organization to organization based on their programs and their philosophy, but fees can be charged for the following reasons:

- Decoding immigration and visa laws for you
- Reaching out to companies on your behalf
- Pre-internship preparation orientation and workshops
- Providing you with housing, transportation, and meals
- Included cultural activities and excursions
- Reflection and professional development seminars to connect your experience with your employability

Is there any funding available for me?

Yes! The College of Engineering offers financial assistance to students participating in international internships. Consider applying for the CoE International Internship Scholarship [here](#) and investigate other CoE, U-M, and global sources of funding [here](#).

How do I determine if I should pay for an international internship that charges a fee?

The answer won't be the same for everyone. Look at your reasons for wanting to obtain an international internship, the skills you'd be able to gain, and what other opportunities you'd be forgoing.

[For more information on international internships, visit our website here](#)