Are Internships Overrated?
A Comparative study of starting salary for recent college graduates without internship experience and those with at least one internship while in college.

Transition from college to career

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Intern</th>
<th>Intern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.3 months</td>
<td>2.5 months</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Job Offers

- 30% non-Interns
- 58% Interns

1960-1970: internship not a job requirement
1985: only 2% graduates preferred internship
2000: internship applications increased by 75%
2003: jobs required double internships
2004-2011: jobs require at least 3 to 4 internships

Average Retention Rate

- Interns working at employees organization: 76% (at 1 year), 55% (at 5 years)
- Interns working at other organization: 70% (at 1 year), 49% (at 5 years)
- Non-Intern: 61% (at 1 year), 44% (at 5 years)

Interns are 70% more likely to be hired as full-time employees with any company.

Median Starting Salary (2011)

- Intern: $46,000
- Non-Intern: $34,600