Scottish Life Sciences Internship Programme

Information for employers

What is it?
The Scottish Life Sciences Internship Programme is for students in their first, second and third year of a Life Sciences subject at any Scottish university or college. The winners secure a 12-week work placement with a Life Sciences company based in Scotland.

Why has it been introduced?
The project is in response to industry concerns that graduates are not adequately prepared for the world of work and, specifically, that their CVs are considered to fall below the expected standards.

There is also a strategic fit with the Life Sciences Skills Investment Plan, aligning with the theme of Building Graduate Work Readiness which identifies a number of issues relating to graduate work readiness.
How does it work?
Students submit a CV against a specific job description defined by industry. These are then reviewed by ScotGrad to a shortlist interviewed by industry. Successful candidates secure a 12 week placement during the summer of 2017 to carry out a specific project, which can be technical or commercial in nature.

The programme is funded by partner organisations along with the companies providing the placements.

Who can take part?
Any Life Sciences company in Scotland that has the capacity to take a student for at least 12 weeks during the summer.

Benefits
• employers will receive a higher calibre of CV from students graduating with a Life Sciences qualification
• students will give greater consideration to their career options and the most effective routes into any chosen area
• students will become more aware of what industry needs and expects from graduates and how best to communicate these competencies to potential employers
• participating students will gain a better understanding of the diversity of job opportunities within Life Sciences companies
• participating employers will get early access to future talent.

Number of Life Science companies across Scotland involved in the programme to date.

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“These internships let the young people challenge us and lets us challenge them. We have had huge benefits from having young people work with us.”
Heather Jones, Chief Executive
Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre

Percentage increase in applications received in 2016 compared to the previous year.

56

“We are a small company so having an undergraduate in the team brought a different energy to the group. Over the 12 weeks I feel we got a lot out of our intern, and she took away a lot too.”
Tom Davie, Business Development Manager
Taragenyx

Number of internships undertaken in 2016, with students from 10 Scottish universities.

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For more information or to get your business involved, contact:
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