

EIT Foundation Internship Programme

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

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1. ABOUT THE INTERNSHIPS

1.1. Where does the EIT Foundation offer internships?

Internship positions are offered in different European branches of the EIT Foundation companies covering a variety of sectors (see *What is the EIT Foundation?*). The internships can take place in different units within a company such as R&D, ICT, business development and supply chain. They can be in any field of knowledge, such as natural sciences, social sciences, engineering and manufacturing or health and welfare. Please contact your University internship office for the vacancy notices.

1.2. Who can apply?

To be eligible for an EIT Foundation internship, you must be either in possession of a Master, post-graduate Master or PhD from a higher education institution *or* be a candidate for a post-graduate Master or PhD. In both cases, it is recommended you are still associated with a higher education institution that could sign an internship agreement with the host company.

You are also expected to have solid academic record, good analytical and drafting skills and a good written and oral command of English.

For some internship positions there are additional prerequisites (e.g. additional language skills). If so, these will be clearly stated in the vacancy notice.

1.3. What kind of work will I be doing?

While the specific tasks will differ depending on the sector and unit (see *Where does the EIT Foundation offer internships?*), all internships are project-based. This means that you will be assigned to a specific project, with clear objectives, tasks and deliverables. You will be involved with all the phases of the project, including project preparation and methodology development, project execution and management, and the final presentation of the project.

1.4. What can I gain from an internship?

The aim of the EIT Foundation internship programme is to provide interns with the skills, knowledge and competences to drive innovation forward. As an intern, you will gain hands-on experience in your field of interest and develop soft skills significant for your future career such as, team working, networking, communication and languages. Moreover, you will work in an international business environment, in a country different than your home country, thus gaining valuable international experience.

During the internship, you will receive support and guidance from experienced mentors and coaches who will pay particular attention to developing your innovative and

entrepreneurial skills. Moreover, you will be able to explore possible future professional opportunities, allowing you to assess and clarify your career plans.

1.5. When will the internship take place and for how long?

The internship positions currently on offer all start approximately in the first quarter 2015 and last from 6 and 12 months. The exact start-date and length of the internship positions are stated in the individual vacancy notices.

1.6. Will I be paid?

Internships are paid; the exact amount varies according to the host company's internal rules. It is expected to cover living and housing costs.

1.7. If I am selected, who will carry the travel expenses?

The policy for travel expenses policy depends on the host company's internal rules. Some host companies may cover the travel costs from the selected candidate's home to the internship location. Selected candidates are invited to discuss this question with the company upon their selection.

2. THE APPLICATIONS PROCESS

2.1. How do I apply?

You apply for a position by providing the person at your University responsible for the internship programme with a CV and a targeted motivation letter. Before you apply, please make sure that you meet the eligibility criteria (see *Who can apply?*)

2.2. When is the deadline for applications?

The deadline for applications to the EIT Foundation is 31 July 2014. However, depending on your University there may be an earlier deadline. Therefore, please confirm the deadline with the person responsible for the internship programme in your University.

2.3. Can I apply for more than one position?

You can apply for up to three positions. If you are applying for more than one position, you must clearly rank these positions in order of preference.

2.4. What are the assessment criteria?

Firstly, the EIT Foundation assesses all applications in the light of the eligibility criteria (see *1.2 Who can apply?* for a description of the eligibility criteria). Afterwards, the companies assess the eligible applications according to their specific selection criteria.

You can get an idea of these specific selection criteria by reading the individual vacancy notices.

2.5. Will I be interviewed?

After assessing the applications, companies may - as they see fit - contact one or more suitable applicants in order to arrange interviews.

2.6. When will I know if my application was successful?

The Foundation receives the applications at the end of July 2014, after which they assess the eligibility of each application. Eligible applications are then sent to the companies, who have to the end of October 2014 to select a candidate. Unsuccessful candidates will only be notified after the final selection has been made.

3. OTHER QUESTIONS

3.1. Where can I find more information about the programme?

General information about the EIT Foundation and the programme can be found at <http://eitfoundation.org/>.

If you have further questions, you should contact the person who is responsible for the internship programme in your University. If you have specific questions about the EIT Foundation or the internship positions being offered, you can also contact the EIT Foundation secretariat via eitfoundation@gmail.com. When contacting the Foundation, please put the person who is responsible for the internship programme in your University in copy.

3.2. What is the EIT Foundation?

The Foundation of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EITF) is a philanthropic, non-profit organisation. It brings together a group of like-minded organisations dedicated to promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in Europe. With the internship programme the Foundation aims at facilitating graduates' integration into the workplace and bridge the gap between academic and business, thereby contributing to reducing Europe's high youth unemployment rates.

Currently, the EIT Foundation has ten member companies: Google, Alcatel-Lucent, BNP Paribas, Agfa, AkzoNobel, Intel, Mol, EY, Vodafone, and Solvay. Please note that not all EIT Foundation companies are offering internship positions.

You can read more about the EIT Foundation here: <http://eitfoundation.org/>

3.3. What is the EIT?

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is a body of the European Union based in Budapest, Hungary. It was established by the European Parliament and the European Council in 2008. The aim of the EIT is to enhance Europe's innovation capability by creating Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) that integrate the entire knowledge triangle (research, business, education) within a thematic field such as climate change, sustainable energy and ICT. You can read more about the EIT here: <http://eit.europa.eu>