



Student Comments:

"The externship program is not only a doorway to finding the right career path for you, but also the gateway to making connections to professional mentors that will be forever helpful for you. The program gives you just as much as you give to it." ~Matthew Chin

"The feeling that I've gotten from this experience is that I know where I belong, and now that I know that, I would do this for the rest of my life." ~Kayanna Jacobs

"My externship has helped me to solidify my plans to go to medical school and become a surgeon. I also feel more confident interacting in a professional environment. I am excited to begin my college education having seen the light at the end of the tunnel by shadowing my sponsor." ~Rachel Scarboro

Course Description

While working with a community sponsor, the student will develop greater awareness and skill related to career selection, leadership development, decision-making, communication, and research.

Goals and Objectives

1. The students will become familiar with a range of career options within a variety of career fields.
2. The students will strengthen their knowledge in fields of special interest.
3. The students will develop greater sensitivity to interpersonal relations and strengthen their own coping skills.
4. The students will strengthen their analytical skills developing the ability to form critical questions, research problems, weigh alternatives, and present supported conclusions and recommendations.
5. The students will refine their planning skills to become self-directing, effective organizers of time, and resourceful in finding and organizing materials.
6. The students will develop independence through accepting responsibility, exhibiting initiative, developing flexibility, and working toward goals.
7. Students will grow in maturity and self-awareness.

Leon High School Honors/Gifted Externship Program

Where your goals for the future become EXPERIENCE and OPPORTUNITIES now.





What is Externship?

Externship is a class offered to Leon High School's college-bound seniors. It provides students with a chance to experience a career field of their choice with professionals in the field.

Why apply?

- Externship is a chance for students to get a sense of what their potential career field requires. Students come out of externship with a better sense of what they want to study in college and what they want to do in their professional lives.
- The program gives students the opportunity to establish connections in their field that can last a lifetime. Many seniors decide to continue working at their externship long after the program is over. A lucky few are even offered jobs after they graduate from high school or college.

How does it work?

Externship is offered during sixth period only, therefore only a limited number of students who apply can be accepted. The externship program looks for responsible, self-disciplined, and highly-motivated students who present a sincere interest in the program.

What do we do?

After the first two weeks of school, the externship class meets only on Wednesdays. Since the class is during sixth period, students are free Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday after fifth period to go to their externship. Students are required to attend the externship placement a minimum of three hours per week. These hours can be earned throughout the week/weekend or all in one day. Many students earn more than three hours each week and find it adds significantly to the quality of their experience.



Extra hours may qualify as volunteer hours that can go toward Bright Futures.

Previous students have externed at places such as:

- National High Magnetic Field Laboratory
- Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
- Florida State University
- Florida Historic Capitol
- Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare
- Local animal hospitals
- Local law firms
- Local architectural firms
- Various elementary and middle schools in Tallahassee

How can I apply?

For students to qualify for the Honors/Gifted Externship Program, they must meet each of the following:

- Be an incoming senior
- Have a minimum un-weighted GPA of 3.0
- Have taken several honors, gifted, and/or AP courses
- Have excellent school attendance
- Receive positive teacher feedback on recommendation forms (one is required of each of student's teachers)

Contact Us

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(Applications available in mid-February.)