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Farber Internship 2020

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Farber Internship?

The Farber Internship is a consulting-like engagement that gives you the opportunity and autonomy to have a real impact at a social enterprise in REDF's Portfolio. You'll spend 10 weeks understanding what it takes to successfully run a social enterprise.

REDF offers MBA students the opportunity to:

- Gain on-the-ground experience in an employment social enterprise and insight into the role of venture philanthropy
- Complete a critical business project and have a lasting impact on the operations of a social enterprise
- Work closely with senior social enterprise leaders and REDF staff
- Learn from REDF's 20+ years of experience in venture philanthropy through multiple in-person learning sessions
- Be a part of a connected, collaborative cohort of dedicated MBA students from across the country

On what types of projects do interns typically work?

Intern projects depend on the critical needs of our Portfolio. Previous projects include industry feasibility studies, business strategy development, e-commerce growth strategy, and revenue modeling. Learn more by reading our Alumni blogs: <http://redf.org/media/blog/farber-blog-series/>

"My Farber experience sat perfectly at the intersection of my interest in nonprofit management and applying the skills I learned in the first year of my MBA."

Meredith McKay, Kellogg '19

Are Farber Interns paid?

Yes. Farber Interns are paid \$10,000 for 10 weeks. REDF is a 501c(3) organization and many MBA programs have summer internship funds that can supplement the salaries of our interns.

How long is the Farber Internship?

The internship is ten weeks, starting June 8 through August 14.

Application and Interviews

How many interns will you have in the summer of 2020?

We expect to hire 10-12 interns, individually placed across REDF's Portfolio (located in Seattle, Portland, NorCal, SoCal, Denver, Austin, Chicago, and Boston). You can view REDF's Portfolio organizations here: <http://redf.org/what-we-do/grant/>

How do you determine where an intern is placed geographically?

Decisions regarding intern placement are based on project needs and intern background, skills, and experience. We also ask for applicant preferences during the interview process and take those into account whenever possible.

What skills and backgrounds do you look for in candidates?

REDF seeks applicants who can work independently to manage their project, seek out information to develop recommendations, build relationships, and proactively solicit feedback to refine their work as they progress through the summer. Interns often have experience in management consulting and/or nonprofit management but we are open to candidates of all backgrounds.

What is the timeline for 2020 applications?

- Application Opens: December 10
- Application Deadline: January 21
- Interviews Conducted: February – March
- Offers Made: late February – March

"My project was clearly critical for the future of the organization and felt incredibly impactful. I would recommend this internship to anyone who is interested in social enterprise, or to anyone who just wants to have a meaningful and challenging summer experience."
Ian Stackhouse-Kaelble, Ross '20

What is the interview process?

There are two rounds of interviews, the first round is conducted by a Farber alum and the second round is conducted by a REDF staff member. Interviews are a combination of behavioral and case questions. The case questions focus on business and operational challenges faced by our Portfolio social enterprises.

More Info

How can I find out more about the Farber Internship Program?

We conduct on-campus info sessions in November and December, where possible. We also offer an online info session in January for those who cannot attend an on-campus session. (You can register for the webinar through the Farber website.) If you'd like to receive notification when the application opens, or request an on-campus info session, please send an email to: farber@redf.org.

Where do Farber Alumni go after graduating?

REDF has placed over 160 Farber Interns at Portfolio companies since 1997. When they graduate, many of our alumni return to, or enter, the private sector working for consulting firms, financial institutions, or tech companies, with the vast majority staying connected to the social sector through board engagement or volunteering. Many others decide to remain in the social sector, continuing their careers at a social enterprise, impact investing firm, or philanthropic institution. Regardless of their career choice, our Farber alumni cite their experience with REDF and our social enterprise partners as a transformative experience.

You can learn more about our twenty years of alumni by viewing their profiles: <http://redf.org/what-we-do/develop-leaders/farber-alumni/>.

What if I have more questions?

You can check out the Farber website here: <http://redf.org/what-we-do/develop-leaders/farber-internship/>