

Internships for Actuarial Students and the “Capstone” Requirement

Actuarial students may obtain capstone credit for completing a summer actuarial internship after the completion of their junior year. This is the recommended route for students who wish to become practicing actuaries. Some of the advantages for completing an internship are:

1. To gain experience and learn skills not taught in school.
2. To strengthen your credentials—employers like to see relevant work experience.
3. To gain potential professional references.
4. Get a highlight on your resume that may be as meaningful as an exam.
5. To fulfill your capstone requirement.

If you wish to get actuarial capstone credit for completion of a summer internship, then you should follow the steps below. Note that step 3 requires the cooperation of your internship employer and you will need to obtain his or her agreement.

1. Obtain a summer actuarial internship that includes:
 - a. Actuarial training program or mentored supervision by practicing actuaries.
 - b. Work assignments on substantial work projects headed by practicing actuaries.
2. Register for Math 4999 with Professor Lawrence Smolinsky for the fall after the internship. It may be possible to register for Math 4999 during the summer of the internship instead of the fall.
3. Your internship supervisor will have to send an email to me that will
 - (a) verify the conditions of (1) were met
 - (b) explains the scope of your duties and gives an evaluation your work.
4. You will have to prepare a report giving a summary of the projects on which you worked and give a presentation on one of the projects. The presentation will likely take place at an *Actuarial Student Association* meeting.
5. If you registered for Math 4999 in the summer, then you will receive course credit in the summer (but not capstone credit). To obtain capstone credit you will have to give the presentation and complete the report in (4). If you registered for Math 4999 in the fall following your internship, then you will give the presentation and report in the fall. You will receive both course and capstone credit.

Lawrence Smolinsky, Professor