

Domestic Corps

Information for Nonprofit Organizations

Domestic Corps, through the Nonprofit & Public Management (NPM) Center, offers Ross School of Business MBA and BBA students high-level nonprofit internships in a variety of disciplines, including strategic planning, marketing, organizational development, and new business development. These unique, once-in-a-lifetime internships provide business expertise to nonprofit organizations across the nation.

Over a period of 10 weeks during the summer, Domestic Corps nonprofit partners are provided with direct access to the expertise, experience, and extensive resources of a top ranked business school. The work of past Domestic Corps interns has significantly increased the capacity of our nonprofit partners, who report overwhelmingly favorable results.

In addition, NPM provides competitive compensation and travel support to the Domestic Corps interns. MBA interns are compensated \$10,000 and BBA interns are compensated \$6,000 for the 10 week internship. Nonprofit employers are expected to contribute \$2,000 per intern with the remaining salary and travel expenses covered by NPM. Exceptions to this rule are made on a case by case basis.

Nonprofit Partners

Domestic Corps has placed 342 interns in over 105 nonprofit organizations across the country since 1993. There are many factors NPM examines in considering a nonprofit organization. Our selection criterion includes, but is not limited to:

- Quality of leadership in the organization and assurance our students will have access to top leadership in the organization
- Capacity to handle one or more interns in terms of staff availability and physical space
- Projects coordinated in such a way as to be integrated with the work of the organization
- Challenging, senior-level projects with measurable impact

Once nonprofit partners have been accepted into the program, Domestic Corps will begin recruiting students. Student recruitment occurs between January-April and includes a rigorous interview process. When NPM determines a strong match between a student and a nonprofit partner, NPM will contact the nonprofit for a final interview before making an offer to the student.

How to Apply

Please submit the completed nonprofit application and attachments via email to nonprofit@umich.edu. A copy of this application may be accessed online at <http://www.nonprofit.umich.edu/nonprofits/DCApplication2010.doc>. The deadline for applications is October 15, 2009.

Nonprofit and Public Management Center

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Frequently Asked Questions

What types of projects do Domestic Corps undertake?

Domestic Corps internship projects should be challenging, senior level assignments at a MBA or BBA level. NPM will work with the nonprofit organization to determine whether their proposed project would be appropriate for MBA or BBA interns. Examples of past student projects include:

- Strategic plans for expansion
- Business plans and feasibility studies for new social enterprise opportunities
- Marketing plans and brand audits
- Operational development and evaluation

As a nonprofit partner, may we participate in selecting an intern?

Yes. NPM staff reviews applications and conducts the initial interviews. Once we have identified a strong candidate, we will ask you to conduct a final interview. If the nonprofit agrees it is a good match, NPM will then make an offer to the student.

What is expected of the nonprofit partner?

The nonprofit organization is expected to designate a project supervisor to provide direction and supervision to the interns. Project supervisors are expected to assist students in creating a work plan, provide resources necessary to complete their projects, and hold regular meetings with interns. Project supervisors are also expected to complete a short online final evaluation following the internship.

In addition, nonprofits are also expected to provide an appropriate working environment. This includes providing a desk, phone, internet connection, and computer. Site organizations must also provide an orientation to the organization and to the greater community. Please include the intern when meeting with professionals, community leaders, and other nonprofit organizations. We also encourage nonprofits to include interns in direct service or program activities when possible.

What do you expect from interns during the 10 weeks?

Students are expected to complete a letter of engagement (LOE) with their project supervisor within the first 2 weeks of their internship. The LOE will outline the expectations of the project, a timeline of project goals and identify agreed upon deliverables. We also require all students to submit biweekly reports, a final report with project deliverables, a one-page testimonial, and an online program evaluation.

What is the timeline?

- Nonprofit application packages are due October 15, 2009 for summer 2010 participation.
- NPM will notify nonprofit partners by early December.
- NPM will recruit students and conduct interviews from January-April.
- Nonprofit partners will interview candidates between February-April. If the organization is located in Southeast Michigan, the interview will be conducted in-person. All other locations may interview by phone.
- If the nonprofit agrees the candidate would be a good fit, NPM will extend an offer to the candidate. Applicants will have 72 hours to respond (in April this decreases to 48 hours).
- Internships typically occur between mid-May and end-of-July.

Who should I contact with questions or concerns?

Please contact NPM staff at (734) 647-0279 or email nonprofit@umich.edu.

“Having a Domestic Corps intern expanded our staff capacity and enabled us to complete a project that we did not have the ability to undertake with our current staffing. Our intern was highly motivated, very productive and extremely competent, and we were able to rely on her for a great deal of work.”

**-Jenny Wittner, Associate Director
Women Employed**