

Professional Experience Program in New York

FAQ

For further questions, please contact Katja Simons, at simons@campus-owl.org

How many students will you accept to PEP?

We have 10 places in the program for students from OWL.

How do I apply if I don't know what internships are available?

You are applying to the Professional Experience Program, not to a specific internship in a specific company or organization. The program includes an internship but also a leadership and intercultural skills seminar as well as a final virtual seminar. You will be matched with a suitable internship provider based on your skills, experience, and career goals.

What kind of internships do you offer?

The internships will be in areas such as Business, Finance, Law, Engineering, Architecture, Marketing, Logistics, Technology, Research.

Campus OWL together with the German American Chamber of Commerce will match you with suitable companies and organizations. Since this is the first round of PEP, we cannot name internship providers of past participants.

As an intern you will be a J-1 visa holder. The J-1 visa is not used for the following fields: Health/Medical, Teaching, Arts (musicians/singers), or Government Sector and we will not be able to match you with institutions in these areas.

What are possible fields of study?

Business/Economics, Natural Sciences, Engineering (incl. Computer Science, IT), Sound Engineering, Architecture, Social Sciences, Humanities. If you don't find your field and are unsure if you can apply, please contact us.

What should I include in the letter of motivation?

You should explain why you are interested in participating in the program. Explain why you are the ideal candidate for the program, how the program helps you achieve your goals and how it relates to your studies. Describe your skills and experiences and why you are interested in doing an internship in the New York metropolitan area and participating in the seminars.

What does excellent academic performance mean?

Your grades should be substantially above average, i.e. between 1.0 and up to 2.5*. We take your academic achievements into account, but also other aspects of your CV, such as extracurricular activities and other application documents (motivation letter, CV, letter of recommendation, English language skills).

[*Law Students up to "very satisfactory"]

Is it possible to apply if you are a recent graduate?

In order to apply you should be enrolled as a student at the time the program takes place (April-June 2022).

How do I prove English language skills?

You need to document your language skills with a language certificate such as the DAAD language certificate (DAAD *Sprachzeugnis*). We also accept other language certificates by other internationally recognized testing institutions.

Do I need to prove English language skills if I study English or if I am enrolled in an English-taught master's program?

If you can provide documentation that your study program is conducted in English, you do not need to send in an additional language certificate.

Who should write the letter of recommendation?

The professor/lecturer should ideally be affiliated with the university/university of applied sciences where you are enrolled. If you are a new student and have no contacts yet at your current university/university of applied sciences, you can also provide a letter of recommendation from your previous institution.

I only had remote, asynchronous classes in the past year and don't know my professor/lecturer. How do I obtain a letter of recommendation?

You can ask to speak with the professor during office hours (*Sprechstunde*) so that she/he can get to know you better. In your Email to the professor, describe which class you attend(ed), what assignments or exam you submitted, and why you are asking for a letter of recommendation. Provide some information about yourself and your studies. Remember to give the professor enough time to write the letter.

Are the internships paid?

The internships are most likely not paid, but you will be eligible for a scholarship under the DAAD PROMOS funding scheme.

Do you offer help with accommodation?

Campus OWL New York will organize and pay for accommodation during the 5-day leadership skills seminar in New York City. You are responsible for securing accommodation during your internship. Depending on where you are doing your internship (in New York City or in the metropolitan area) there are different options. The Campus OWL office may also offer information on rooms that are rented to individuals on a short-term basis upon request. Possible housing options in New York City, for example: <https://websterapartments.org/> (only for women)

<http://www.kolpingny.org/hostel.cfm> (only for men)

<https://www.ihouse-nyc.org>

See the *PEP Info Sheet* for information on estimated living expenses in NY.