About CEO

The DCPS Competitive Employment Opportunities Program (CEO Program) provides high school age students with disabilities the opportunity to connect with professional mentors who work in a range of competitive occupations. CEO mentors expose students to the world of competitive employment and help guide students through the career exploration process. Program coursework includes paid weekly professional development classes, guided correspondence with mentors and career focused capstone projects. Upon completion of the program, mentors assist participants in applying for paid summer internships at their place of employment. In order to maximize savings, eligible students are encouraged to enroll in Individualized Development Accounts (IDA) in order to receive 1:1 matched savings for use towards continued education after high school.

What are the intern responsibilities / time commitments?

Interns must attend a mandatory one hour intern orientation and expectations meeting. Interns must attend all intern training sessions and career focused project sessions on either Tuesdays or Thursdays from 4:30pm – 6:00pm from January – June. After competing the required professional development courses, each intern will be considered for a summer internship at their mentor’s place of employment. Internships take place in the summer and generally run for 80 hours from June through August, on a flexible schedule to be determined by interns and their mentors.

How much are interns paid?

Interns are paid for their participation at all intern training sessions, career focused project sessions, and summer internships at a starting rate of $10.00 per hour. All interns are eligible for performance based raises throughout the program.

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