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**The Cottrell Entrepreneurial Leadership Center**

**Virtual Entrepreneurship Internship Program**

The Cottrell Entrepreneurial Leadership Center Virtual Entrepreneurship Internship Program assists startups and small businesses through its innovative virtual internship program. The internship program matches startups and small businesses with West Chester University Entrepreneurship minors seeking real-world experience. All internships are virtual.

Many startups and small businesses are unable to offer internships due to resource constraints. As a result, students miss the opportunity to work with entrepreneurs and small business owners. Exposure to real-world entrepreneurial ventures expands students' view of entrepreneurship from an abstract concept to a real-world experience, and for many it triggers their entrepreneurial spirit.

Student interns not only gain practical business experience, they also earn 3 college credits. After completing the internship application, qualifying students will be enrolled in MGT 483. An internship is an academic class. Accordingly, the internship credits incur tuition and fees according to the schedule posted on the Bursar’s office website. Students must pay all tuition and fees for internship credits on or before the invoiced due date.

Internship tracks

1. Traditional 180 hour paid internship with a startup or small business or an unpaid internship with a nonprofit. Student interns complete 180 hours of virtual internship work plus internship related academic requirements.
2. Students complete an entrepreneurship project course which includes applied entrepreneurship content. A significant portion of the course includes a project with a startup, small business, nonprofit organization, or the Cottrell Center. Students are not paid for the projects. However, a limited number of scholarships will be awarded to students for the MGT 483 tuition.

Application process

Startups and small businesses complete an Employer application posted on the Cottrell Center website www.wcupa.edu/cottrellcenter. Businesses must be revenue generating; pre-revenue startups must have substantial equity funding.

Students seeking an intern, complete an Entrepreneurship Internship application form posted on the Cottrell Center website [www.wcupa.edu/cottrellcenter](http://www.wcupa.edu/cottrellcenter).