Internship Program for inbound EXchange undergraduate students (iPEX)

Introduction
After a successful pilot in Summer 2024, HKUST is officially launching the Internship Program for inbound EXchange undergraduate students (iPEX) for Summer 2025. iPEX aims to provide experiential learning opportunities for our inbound exchange undergraduate students, enable our corporate partners to recruit top international talents, and expand the young talent pool for Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area.

Background of our inbound exchange undergraduate students
- engineering
- computer science
- business
- social science

Overseas institutions of our inbound exchange undergraduate students
- France (Sciences Po, KEDGE, Grenoble)
- Germany (TUM, TUD)
- Spain (Madrid, Valencia)
- Switzerland (EPFL)
**Timeline**

- **August**: Submit the interest form to become a Corporate Partner (CP)
- **November**: Job matching by Career Center
- **February**: Conduct interview with student(s)
- **March**: Give internship offer to student(s) with contract issued and signed

**Internship period**

Full time between 2 June and 8 August 2025
(the last working day should not be later than 8 August 2025)
(8-10 weeks as agreed between the student and the Corporate Partner)

**Contract Terms and Salaries**

The student interns must be officially employed based on a mutually signed employment contract between the student and the Corporate Partner. The Corporate Partner must undertake all legal responsibilities as an employer under the Minimum Wage Ordinance, the Employment Ordinance, the Employee’s Compensation Ordinance and other relevant ordinances. The pay level needs to meet the requirement according to the Minimum Wage Ordinance in Hong Kong. The Corporate Partner shall manage and supervise the student interns like other employees and pay them on a timely manner as stipulated in the employment contract.

**Visa Information**

Corporate Partners do not need to apply a work/training visa for the student intern. HKUST will assist the students in extending their student visa and obtain a No Objection Letter (NOL) from the Immigration Department which enable them to work legally in Hong Kong.
Points-To-Note

- Corporate Partners shall ensure that the student intern(s) recruited for the post is/are direct employee(s) and are under the protection of the Employment Ordinance.
- Corporate Partners shall follow the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance when collecting personal data from job applicants (e.g. resumes).
- Corporate Partners shall arrange for the student intern(s) to join a registered Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) scheme (if applicable).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Do Corporate Partners need to provide employment insurance, Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) and other statutory requirements and benefits to the student during the employment period?

Yes. The student intern is reckoned as an employee at the Corporate Partner and shall be covered under the employment insurance and other statutory requirements and benefits offered by the Corporate Partner based on employment laws in Hong Kong.

2. When is the latest Corporate Partners need to make offers to the students?

Generally, the visas of our inbound exchange students expire in June and they must return to their home countries unless their visas are extended. Confirming an offer with contract signed by both parties in March would allow them sufficient time to apply for visa extension and make necessary arrangements (e.g. accommodation) for their stay in Hong Kong during the summer. In some cases, if they receive the offer too late, they would not be able to start the internship in June.

3. Where will students stay during the internship?

HKUST will arrange university housing for students either on campus (Clear Water Bay) or off-campus (Tseung Kwan O).

4. Are Corporate Partners obligated to hire a student from the list if none of the candidates are suitable?

Corporate Partners are not required to hire any student if none of the nominated students are found to be suitable for the role.

If you are interested to become a Corporate Partner, please submit the interest form and we will contact you for further details.