The Professional Development Series and the emphasis on internship opportunities illustrates the importance of one of the strategic themes of the Dolan School of Business: enabling students to be career-ready. The wide array of events, workshops, and experiential learning options provide a structured forum for students to gain the necessary knowledge, skills, and networking strategies to leverage their business education into a productive career.

Additional Information
We look forward to working with you! Please stop by the office in DSB 1121 or contact the director of internships at the Dolan School of Business with any questions:

Tara Berwick
tberwick@fairfield.edu
(203) 254-4000, ext. 3040

Internship Timing
It is strongly recommended that all business students complete at least one internship prior to graduation. Many students aim to find their first internship the summer after their sophomore year, with all students encouraged to find an internship related to their desired career path the summer following junior year.

Internships for academic credit
Students who meet the qualifications below may opt to have their acquired internship count for academic credit. Both paid and unpaid internships can be done for credit. Reasons to apply include:

- Some companies require interns to receive academic credit
- Replacing a traditional elective class with an internship course provides a more flexible schedule for internship hours
- Interns will receive supervision by a faculty member, on-site mentors, and the director of internships

Students can do a maximum of two 3-credit internships in the fall, spring, or summer semesters after their sophomore year is complete. One-credit internships are also available during the winter intersession or summer months.

For-credit internship qualifications
- Completion of sophomore year
- Cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher
- Apply within two weeks of the beginning of the semester in which the internship takes place

While most students opt to find an internship related to their major or minor, students can apply to intern in any business discipline.
Overview

The increasingly competitive business world demands a new kind of college graduate: one who is prepared to hit the ground running in a professional environment. Business requires students who have solid skills, exemplary communication and presentation abilities, critical thinking adeptness, and unwavering ethics.

The Charles F. Dolan School of Business seeks to prepare our students for this world through the Professional Development Series, a comprehensive program designed to give DSB undergraduates a competitive edge in a challenging job market. The program is optional, but highly encouraged for all business students.

The program consists of four levels, meant to coincide with a student’s four years at Fairfield University. Students may, however, opt to start or progress in the program at a speed that is comfortable for them.

Program Goals

Level 1: Career Exploration And Assessment
Students begin to explore their unique abilities and the tools they will need to succeed. This includes discovering options related to majors/minors, study abroad, and other opportunities that will enhance their overall education while building skills like communication and time management. Students are encouraged to get involved in extracurricular activities and start thinking about resumes.

Level 2: Professional Skills Development
Students develop the skills and documents they will need to succeed in the professional world including resumes, cover letters, LinkedIn profiles, and interviewing. Motivation to explore leadership roles and experiential learning opportunities is fostered.

Level 3: Gain Experience
Students gain experience through experiential learning and become leaders on campus and in the community. Networking and conversations with alumni and other professionals is encouraged. Students continue to develop interview skills and fine-tune resumes and other key documents.

Level 4: Connect And Embark
Students will now use the skills they have gained to focus on their post-graduation plans. Programs focus on the transition from college to career. Students will finalize their student-career portfolio and be recognized for their achievements while at Fairfield University.

Internships

The Dolan School of Business views practical experience as an important part of a student’s academic program. An internship offers the opportunity to apply classroom theories to real-world situations and use on-the-job experiences to enrich the overall academic program. Internships also provide students with a competitive edge in the job market.

Internship Opportunities

Our ideal location offers a dynamic mix of internship opportunities throughout Connecticut, New York, and New England. Thousands of companies are located in Fairfield County alone, and New York City is only an hour’s train ride away. From global Fortune 500 companies to entrepreneurial start-ups and everything in between, students are exposed to innumerable opportunities in every industry imaginable.

Sample Internship Sponsors

- Big 4 Accounting Firms (Deloitte, EY, KPMG, and PWC)
- Cigna
- Frontier Communications
- General Electric
- Indeed.com
- Letarte Swim
- Merrill Lynch
- PepsiCo
- Priceline.com
- UBS
- Viacom