It's never too early to start planning for your internship. The total process—finding an internship and applying and interviewing for it—can take several weeks or even months. Here is a general timeline to assist you with the planning process:

**Research internships**

*(Three semesters before you want to begin your internship)*

- Talk with your academic adviser and a career services counselor to find out what internship resources are available to you on campus.
- Write your resume and cover letter.
- Decide what you would like from your internship. Responsibilities? Compensation? Experience?
- Attend job fairs to find out about internship opportunities.
- Start networking with everyone you know.
- Define where you would like to do your internship. City? Corporation? Industry?
- Start researching internship opportunities. Obtain general information about the company, internship programs, contact people, and deadlines.

**Apply for internships**

*(Two semesters before you intern)*

- Apply online or by whatever method the company requires.
- Practice your interviewing skills. Schedule a mock interview with your career services office.

**Interview and accept an internship**

*(One semester before your internship)*

- Complete an application for each company where you would like to intern.
- Interview with employers.
- Send a thank-you letter to each employer who gives you an opportunity to interview.
- Accept an internship offer.

Good luck!

Courtesy of the [National Association of Colleges and Employers](http://naceweb.org).