USC’s Work Experience Scheme provides a platform for students to gain additional experience in the workplace.

USC programs often incorporate practical workplace experience for students in the form of internships, professional practicum or guided industry projects. These types of placements are assessable components of the student’s degree program.

USC students are encouraged to connect with industry, and if possible, source additional work experience to enhance their own employability and professional networks. Additional and optional work placements are non-assessable, however form a vital part of a student’s career journey. This is where USC’s Work Experience Scheme comes in.

What is it?
Each individual student can undertake a maximum duration of up to 30 days (240 hours) work experience per calendar year. The nature of the placement should be one of a supportive learning environment, enhancing learning training and skill development through observation and practice. At the same time, it should also be a platform for a student to be able to demonstrate emerging industry skills by undertaking specific tasks.

What are the benefits to my business?
- Access to enthusiastic and motivated students who can bring a fresh perspective to the workplace.
- An extra pair of hands to help with specific projects.
- Opportunity for staff development through the mentoring of students.
- Students who undertake unpaid placements are covered under the University’s Personal Accident, Public Liability, Professional Indemnity and Medical Malpractice insurances whilst involved in approved placement activities.

What are my obligations as a host?
- Prior to the commencement of the placement, you are expected to establish suitable placement activities to undertake, in consultation with the student.
- USC will provide relevant pre-placement documentation relating to partnership arrangements and health and safety. We request the information be completed and returned to us before the start date of the placement.
- On arrival, students should be provided with an adequate induction to your organisation. The induction should cover essential health and safety procedures, and standard operational procedures relevant to the work experience.
- During the placement, you are expected to provide appropriate supervision, and be available to answer questions from the student. You may at times be required to demonstrate, mentor or instruct the student when necessary.
- At the end of the placement you will be asked to complete a short evaluation relating to the student’s work experience.

MORE INFORMATION:
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