

# AKS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW



## OVERVIEW:

The AKS Internship Program provides an opportunity for students in landscape architecture, and related fields to earn their Bachelor's degree in four years while graduating with work experience that introduces the student to career opportunities within the industry.

Our philosophy is that the best professionals have an understanding of the land development process and how policy translates to real projects in the field. As a company, our focus is on quality so we want you to learn about the process and develop an understanding of the role of the landscape architect. Specific assignments may vary depending on workload and staffing needs.

## APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications accepted	October 3, 2022
Last day applications accepted	February 28, 2023
Notification to candidates	week of April 3, 2023

Following initial screening of received application materials, selected candidates will be invited to interview with the AKS team. Applicants may be asked to provide writing samples. Final notification to candidates will occur no later than the first week of April.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be currently enrolled in a 2- or 4-year accredited program with a declared major in landscape architecture, or related field.
- Must have completed at least one year of higher education prior to start of internship.
- Enter the AKS Landscape Architecture Internship Program as early as the summer following your freshman year.
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Commit to working full-time in-person as a paid intern for a minimum of 12 weeks per year, generally during the summer months in our Vancouver, WA office.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Increased knowledge and proficiency in design programs typically used in the profession, including AutoCAD, LandFX, Photoshop, FormConnect, etc.
- First-hand experience with the collaborative nature of design and exposure to working with related disciplines (planners, engineers, arborists, surveyors, construction inspectors, and natural resource scientists).
- Experience with all phases of the life cycle of plan development from conceptual design through construction implementation.

## PROGRAM DETAILS:

The intent of the program is to build a fundamental understanding of the role of the landscape architect in the land development process. Landscape architects are key participants in the lifecycle of a project. Furthermore, this program will introduce you to other complimentary disciplines with whom landscape architects work with on a daily basis. This exposure helps form a holistic view of landscape design and the various factors that influence it. The program is structured to complement and prepare you for the coursework at school by providing insight into how the basic principles apply in the real world. Typical tasks could include:

- Working with the senior landscape architect and other landscape architectural staff on a variety of projects including commercial and industrial, retail, residential subdivisions, open space planning, and public parks, squares and pedestrian improvements.
- Assist the senior landscape architect with public presentations. This may include preparing color plans and other graphics and assisting with meeting setup, running PowerPoint, taking notes, etc.
- Conducting preliminary studies of existing site conditions, contours, soils, vegetation, site features, drainage, ecology, buildings, roads, and paths.
- Preparing and accurately producing detailed plans and working drawings from preliminary/conceptual design through construction documents needed for project implementation. This could include setting up sheets, linework/drafting, preparing planting plans, and construction detailing and notes.
- Contacting and coordinating with manufacturers, suppliers, and other specialty equipment vendors as they relate to project design and construction.
- Assisting the senior landscape architect with site visits, inventory and analysis, monitoring and checking work on-site.
- Coordinating with other in-house experts including arborists, engineers, surveyors, planners, and natural resource scientists.
- Other tasks as needed.

You may participate in the AKS Intern Program for up to three years. Commitment to the program is for one year at a time. Once initially accepted into the program, simply let us know if you are interested in returning the next year. Your continued participation in the program is subject to review and approval by AKS which will be discussed at your final evaluation.

Scholarships for participants may be awarded at AKS' discretion following successful completion of the first summer internship.

## MENTOR/SUPERVISOR

You will be assigned a mentor to serve as a point of contact throughout the internship. You will meet with your mentor on a regular basis to answer questions and provide a framework for how your work ties into the bigger picture. In addition, you will be assigned a direct supervisor to work with during your summer job assignment. The direct supervisor may change depending on the job assignment.

## EVALUATION PROCEDURES

You will receive weekly feedback from your supervisors and will have a formal evaluation at the end of the internship with your supervisor and mentor. A key part of the AKS culture is providing immediate and honest feedback so that you can work most effectively.

During the final evaluation, we will discuss your plans for the next summer. A scholarship may be awarded. However, if performance did not meet our expectations or it was not a good fit, you may not be encouraged to return.

## COMPENSATION

This program is a paid internship. You will be expected to work full time and will be compensated on an hourly basis with time and a half paid for overtime. Overtime is considered time worked over 40 hours in one week. The pay range is between \$18-\$21 per hour.

## HOW TO APPLY

Submit your completed application along with the requested materials online prior to the application deadline here: <https://aksengineeringforestry.applytojob.com/apply/ysai3TTteU/Landscape-Architecture-Internship-Summer-2023>