



ADVANCEMENT | FOUNDATION

LUMBERJACKS THRIVE EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

ALUMNI HOST MENTOR OVERVIEW

Lumberjacks Thrive is a new university effort intended to strengthen the Lumberjack community by connecting alumni and students in a meaningful way. Structured engagement opportunities will inspire students to apply their learning beyond the classroom for transformative experiences, impacting professional and personal lives long after graduation. As participants in the Lumberjacks Thrive Externship program, current NAU sophomores will be paired with a top-level Lumberjack, like you, for career exploration and discovery and a firsthand look into what it takes to thrive in the 21st century workplace. Alumni mentors participating in an externship give back to NAU by hosting a Lumberjack student for a multi-day professional development experience. NAU staff will match students with alumni mentors and the university will cover the student's travel and lodging expenses.

WHAT IS AN EXTERNSHIP?

Externships are “career experiments” designed to help students explore their chosen area of study or fit within a selected career field. These unique opportunities allow students to gain practical experiences that enhance their résumés, develop skills that create a competitive edge as employees entering the workforce, and build an expanded network. Externships provide guided, experiential opportunities for students to engage in a rich campus community outside the traditional classroom. And, alumni hosts will be exposed to NAU talent and can share the transformative power of an NAU education.

As a Lumberjacks Thrive Externship host, you will get to:

- Guide a student through day-to-day activities in a career field and/or industry of interest
- Introduce a student to different areas or functions of your organization
- Share your NAU success story and serve as a mentor to a fellow Lumberjack
- Discover the power of the Lumberjack network and connect with potential new employees
- Grow a deeper connection to NAU

Recommended opportunities to offer:

- Job shadowing in various professional settings to expose the student to a diverse workplace
- Informational interviews with key leaders from different areas within your organization
- Attendance at meetings and participation in discussions and other professional interactions
- Participation in a relevant, real-world project
- Tours of facilities, worksites, etc.

EXTERNSHIP DETAILS:

Students at the sophomore level (31-60 credit hours) are eligible to participate. Externships will take place following spring semester finals (early May), and will be 2-4 days in length. Students are asked to arrange their own transportation to/from the city in which the externship takes place and lodging for the duration of the externship. Travel and lodging expenses will be reimbursed by the NAU Foundation. Students may also receive a meal stipend.

HOW TO APPLY:

Alumni interested in serving as a mentor for the Lumberjacks Thrive Externship program should contact Erin Munn at Erin.Munn@nau.edu or 928-523-8148 by Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

Student applications will be open through March 2, 2020. Pairings will be announced in mid-March.

For more information, please visit nau.edu/externship or contact Erin Munn at Erin.Munn@nau.edu or 928-523-8148.