



Internship Prospectus

“In today’s knowledge economy, professional science masters [sic] degree programs have a critical role to play in keeping America competitive by creating linkages between institutions and industry to prepare scientists with the practical training they need to work in high-need fields.”

— Late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, National Research Council press release, July 2008

The Illinois Professional Science Master’s (PSM) combines business skills with science knowledge in integrated, rigorous, and applied M.S. degree programs. While scientists typically learn the nut-and-bolts of business after several years of on-the-job learning, Illinois PSM students and graduates can hit the ground running. They know science, but they also know the bigger picture – how to work beyond the lab with people and the business side of enterprise. Our students and graduates are top-notch, recruited from across the nation and around the world. To prepare graduates to succeed in real-world applications, we offer a carefully designed curriculum that includes a hands-on internship experience.

We offer three internship options, flexible to meet your needs and to provide students with high-quality learning experiences:

Individual internship: This option is a traditional internship, usually with the student working on-site. If your needs are best addressed by hiring a student – or several students – to work on assignments that require advanced science knowledge mixed with business skills and abilities, Illinois PSM students are a good fit.

Individual internship project: This option allows a student to work remotely (usually on campus) on a pre-defined project. Examples of previous projects include: competitive analysis, business expansion (and marketing) plans, facility assessment, and market analysis. The student will work with employers to define deliverables.

Team-based internship project: If you have a project that is best addressed by a small team of students, the Illinois PSM may be able to help. Illinois PSM interns work in small, focused teams of 2-3 students. The students already know each other and have worked together for a year before tackling your project. The students gain the opportunity to apply their skills to real-world problems, and you gain a high-quality team providing value-added services for your organization. It’s a win-win for everyone.

These options give you access to high-quality people with bachelor's degrees who have completed a full year of graduate study in their program's science field – plus business study in **people and technology at work, accounting and finance, technology and innovation management, global strategy, and human resource management** for scientists and engineers.

Illinois PSM internships have multiple benefits to you —

- Opportunities for you to engage a **single intern** or a **team** to address real-world needs in your organization.
- An **efficient, cost-effective preview** for you to see first-hand the knowledge, skills, and abilities of Illinois PSM students – a sampling of the value they could deliver for you as an employee upon their completion of the program.
- An opportunity for your organization to have an audience with all Illinois PSM students and other undergraduate and graduate students at Illinois and beyond – an effective public relations **venue to reach high-potential prospective employees** for your organization.

Illinois PSM programs are offered in:

- ☞ **Agricultural Production:** The core of this program is an advanced interdisciplinary education in science and agribusiness. Students specialize in food animal production, crop production, or sustainable production systems.
- ☞ **Bioenergy:** The bioenergy program bridges science and business to help meet the demand for sustainable bio-based energy. Graduates will be prepared for positions of responsibility in bioenergy and related biosciences. Students may specialize in plants, soils, and feedstocks; production, processing and use; environment, economics and policy and law; and tools and methods.
- ☞ **Food Science and Human Nutrition:** This program prepares graduates for positions of responsibility in food, pharmaceutical, and ingredient companies. Students have a great deal of flexibility to learn across a wide spectrum of food and nutrition specialties such as biochemistry, sensory evaluation, physiology, nutrition, toxicology, and others.
- ☞ **Geographic Information Science:** The GIS program builds a foundation in geospatial technologies for graduates in our interconnected world. Students gain a firm foundation in GIS theory and applications. Graduates will be prepared to apply their blended science and business education at companies that utilize GIS to enhance product sales, resource development, business efficiency, and service delivery.
- ☞ **Technical Systems Management:** Merging technology with management in a systematic approach to problem-solving is the foundation of the technical systems management program. Graduates focus on the application of engineering principles, the study of technology used in agriculture, and the integration of business concepts

in food and agricultural industries. The program is offered by the top-ranked Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

How the Illinois PSM Internship Works

We need from you a brief description outlining your needs, expectations, logistics, and deliverables. Your description will be reviewed to ensure a fit between your needs and those of the Illinois PSM program and students. We will then propose individuals or groups of individuals that could help address your needs. Selection of internship projects and interns will be a mutual decision amongst your organization, the individual students, and the Illinois PSM. We want to ensure a good match for all parties involved. We expect this to be a competitive process – competitive for you as a participant and competitive for the students. With a limited number of students, proposing an Illinois PSM internship or internship project does not guarantee selection.

Internship descriptions will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- potential as a learning experience,
- depth and breadth of knowledge required,
- match between the needs of the internship or internship project and the knowledge and skills of the PSM students, and
- significance of the project in creating value for the participating organization.

The one-page “**Illinois PSM Internship Form**” collects from you the necessary information to start the process. You may submit this on paper or on the Illinois PSM website at <http://psm.illinois.edu/industry-connections>.

Before you begin working with students, we will address any needs you may have to protect internship-related intellectual property and, as needed, help you secure non-disclosure agreements with the participating students.

The final deliverables will depend on the nature of your internship and will be defined early in the process. They may include but are not limited to a written report, a project plan, a presentation, an event, or any combination of these.

Subject to your approval (regarding your intellectual property or non-disclosure needs), your internship assignments’ deliverables will be presented at a public forum for students to share their learning experiences with other students and faculty.

TIMELINE:

Late Spring: Interns begin work in the spring to understand your needs and, where appropriate, define the scope of your project.

Summer: The majority of the students' work is done – on-site at your organization, as necessary – during the summer (from 10 to 12 weeks).

Fall: The final deliverables will be presented to you at the end of the summer term or early in the fall semester. Completed internships and internship projects will be showcased (pending your approval) in mid- or late fall.

Submit online: Provide your “Illinois PSM Internship Form” information online at <http://psm.illinois.edu/internship-form> or mail the paper form to: Illinois Professional Science Master's, 204 Coble Hall, 801 S. Wright Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Questions? Natalie Bosecker, Illinois PSM Director, is eager to talk with you about internship needs. Email her at psmdegree@illinois.edu or call (217) 265-5363.

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Prior Illinois PSM Internship Placements

Abengoa
Abbott Nutrition
ADM
Advanced Cooling Therapy
AGCO
AgReliant
Amcol International
Bayer CropScience
BCS Incorporated
Beck's Hybrids
Best Chicago Meat
BP
Cargill
Carthage Innovative Swine Solutions
Caterpillar
Clean Energy Trust
Cleantech Group
Country Financial
Dannon
Dow AgroSciences
Dudley Smith Farm
Eli Lilly
Eurofins Agroscience Services

Flossmoor Station Brewery
Fonterra
Gammatonex LLC
Genective S.A.
Girl Scouts of America
GreenPeace Asia
Illinois EPA
Illinois Foundation Seeds
Illinois Green Business Association
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center – Biomass Project
Illinois Ventures
Inspirotec
Kellogg Company
KWS Cereals USA, LLC
Lallemand Animal Nutrition
McDonald's
Monsanto
Nestle
Newly Weds Foods
Northwestern University
PEKRON Consulting, Inc.
Pioneer

Positive Energy Practice
Purina Animal Nutrition LLC
Schreiber Foods
Sensient Flavors
Tetra Pak Inc.
Triple K Feeds
Tyson
Tyson Foods
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ERDC, CERL
U.S. Department of Agriculture, ARS, NCAUR
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Universidade de São Paulo
University of Illinois
Veterinary Specialty Center at Illinois
Vidasym
Wild Bear Mountain Ecology Center

January 7, 2016