

Chester County Juvenile Probation

Student Internship Program

What is the Juvenile Probation Student Internship Program?

The Chester County Juvenile Probation Department is dedicated to providing unpaid hands-on internship/practicum experiences to qualified graduate or undergraduate students in the following majors: Criminal Justice, Sociology, Psychology, Social Work or a related field.

Students will receive practical education through assignment to a Juvenile Probation Officer mentor and placement in one of several units within the department.

What does an internship cover?

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System goals of balanced and restorative justice will be operationalized by students through opportunities to:

- ❖ conduct investigations and formulate supervision plans
- ❖ participate in home and residential placement visits
- ❖ monitor juvenile offenders in the community
- ❖ observe the function of the Chester County Youth Center
- ❖ make verbal and written reports/recommendations to the Juvenile Court

How could I become an Intern?

Interested students need to send their resume, cover letter, and completed internship application (online at <http://www.chesco.org/index.aspx?nid=182>) to Michelle Harris-Alexander at mharris@chesco.org early in the semester prior to the internship requirement. The following information should be outlined:

school/ standing and major
number of hours required for their internship
days of the week and times they are available
any special projects they would have to complete or requirements of the internship (such as carrying a caseload)
any particular areas of interest
a potential start date and end date
any other information they would like to include.

Internship application deadlines:

Summer semester - February 15

Fall semester - April 15

Spring semester - October 15

Internship hour requirements:

Summer session - must be able to work 450 hours or at least 10 weeks @ 37.5 hours per week.

Chester County Juvenile Probation

Student Internship Program

Fall/Spring semester - must be able to work part-time with a minimum of 2 full days per week (10 hours) or 20 hours split throughout the week.

*Note: Students must be able to receive school credit for the internship; the department does not accept applications for those that do not, although a student may be able to "shadow" a Probation Officer for a shortened period of time.

Once we receive all of the above information we will contact the student for an interview.

If accepted to the program, the students are required to obtain a child abuse clearance, which can be found on the following site: <http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/resources/documents/pdf/fillinforms/dpwchildabuse.pdf> , as well as undergo a criminal background check by our department. Information required for the criminal background check is: the student's full name, date of birth and social security number.