**NACE INTERNHSIP CRITERIA**

An internship is a form of **experiential learning** that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional setting. Internships give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields they are considering for career paths; and give employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent.

**CRITERIA FOR AN EXPERIENCE TO BE DEFINED AS AN INTERNSHIP**

To ensure that an experience—whether it is a traditional internship or one conducted remotely or virtually—is educational, and thus eligible to be considered a legitimate internship by the NACE definition, all the following criteria must be met:

* The experience must be an extension of the classroom: a learning experience that provides for applying the knowledge gained in the classroom. It must not be simply to advance the operations of the employer or be the work that a regular employee would routinely perform.
* The skills or knowledge learned must be transferable to other employment settings.
* The experience has a defined beginning and end, and a job description with desired qualifications.
* There are clearly defined learning objectives/goals related to the professional goals of the student’s academic coursework.
* There is supervision by a professional with expertise and educational and/or professional background in the field of the experience.
* There is routine feedback by the experienced supervisor.
* There are resources, equipment, and facilities provided by the host employer that support learning objectives/goals.