Practice Opportunities: Related Design Fields

We encourage students to look beyond traditional firm employment to the wide array of design-related professions that not only prepare students for work in a design firm, but often become assets to a student’s unique development as a designer. Many students find that their work in non-traditional design settings is what sets them apart from other applicants when they later apply for work in a firm.

Practice Hours will be granted on the basis of a student’s ability to demonstrate how their work has helped them to enrich and build upon their set of skills and abilities which are useful and relevant to their professional development. If students are unsure of whether a particular job or setting will meet the requirements for approved Practice Hours, they should contact Practice prior to accepting the position and commencing work. Failure to do so may result in denial of a student’s petition for Practice Hours. Related settings include, but are not limited to:

Related Design Fields:

- Graphic and web design
- Urban Planning and Design
- Site and traffic planning and design
- Production and set design
- Design/Build
- Lighting design
- Industrial/product design
- Exhibition design
- Upholstery/textile design

Engineering:

- Surveying
- Environmental Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- MEP/Mechanical Engineering
- Structural Engineering

Construction:

- General contracting
- Plumbing/Electrical/HVAC subcontracting
- Carpentry
- Cabinet building
- Framing
- Masonry
- Painting
- General construction
- Landscape contracting
- Construction project management
- Cost estimating
- Home inspection firms

Development and Real Estate:

- Property appraisal
- Real estate development
- Project financing
- Community development corporations
- Real estate “staging”
- Real estate agencies

Public Agencies/Government:

- City and regional planning agencies
- Public officials’ offices [municipal, state, federal]
- Economic and urban development agencies
- Housing authorities
- Transit authorities
- Port authorities
- Municipal planning and zoning

Facilities Management:

- Apartment/property management
- Facilities and asset management

Retail:

- Nurseries/garden centers
- High-end furniture
- Design centers
- Lumber yards/building supply centers

Updated: August 2013