**Questions to Consider Before Applying for an Internship:**

In order to begin your internship search it is helpful for you to identify a few parameters:

* What is your geographic preference?
  + It may be easier for you to find an internship if you broaden your preference.
* What types and sizes of organizations am I interested in? (e.g. large or small organization, nonprofit, engineering, government?)
  + Seek out contacts in these organizations, and research options in your area.
* Do I need to be paid for the experience?
  + Often, you may be able to balance a great unpaid experience with another paid job. Not all internships require 40 hours per week.
* From your research of the career field, are there qualities and or skills that you need to demonstrate to be successful?
* What major-related or academic related skills do you want to use? (e.g. writing, scientific, research, etc.)
  + Do the job descriptions match your needs?
* Are there specific companies that you want to target?
  + Start researching organizations in your area and viewing their websites.
* Understand the timeline associated with internships in your targeted areas.
  + Many companies recruit in the fall (Aug.-Oct.), conduct interviews and make offers in Nov. & Dec. for both SPRING internships as well as the following SUMMER internships. Many deadlines for internship programs are in the fall, so you will want to have your resume updated and begin searching in this timeframe.