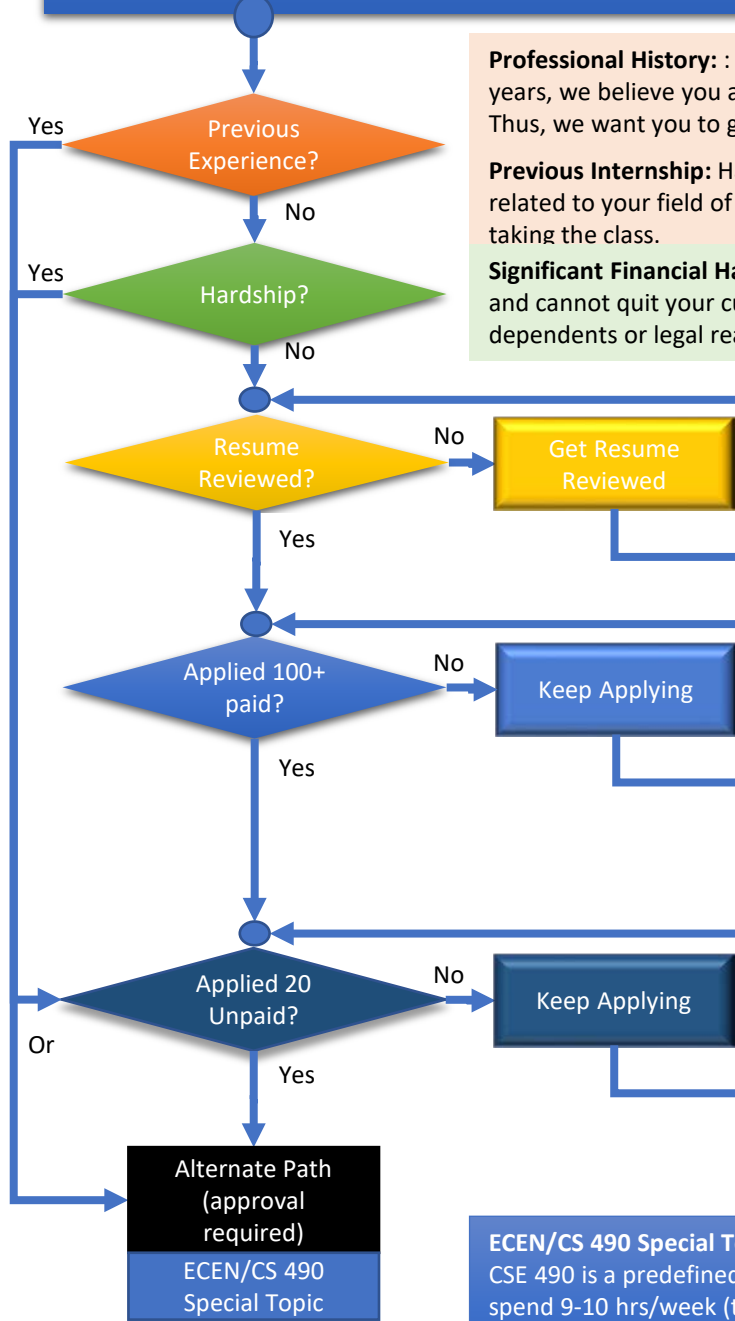# CSE 398: What are my Internship options?

An Academic Internship is a planned and supervised practical experience in a vocational or educational setting. Interns acquire practical skills while applying classroom theory and principles. **Internship Objectives:**
- Obtain significate professional experience.
- Explore career topics, paths, benefits, and options to be better prepared for the field.
- Report on what has been learned from the job and how it reflects on the degree program.

For department accreditation, waiving our internship requirement is no longer an option; instead, we will substitute the below defined CSE 490: Special Topics: Professional Career course for CSE 398 Internship 1. So how do a qualify for CSE 498: Professional Career course?

Flowchart

- **Previous Experience?** — Yes → (Alternate Path) / No ↓
- **Hardship?** — Yes → (Alternate Path) / No ↓
- **Resume Reviewed?** — No → **Get Resume Reviewed** / Yes ↓
- **Applied 100+ paid?** — No → **Keep Applying** / Yes ↓
- **Applied 20 Unpaid?** — No → **Keep Applying** / Yes ↓ Or →
- **Alternate Path (approval required)** — **ECEN/CS 490 Special Topic**

Side Notes

Professional History: : If your professional working history, 2000+ hours, or 1+ years, we believe you are over the hurdle of needing the experience to get a job. Thus, we want you to get more programming project experience.

Previous Internship: Have you had a previous job that was at least 400 hours related to your field of study? Or, in some cases, had an internship job without taking the class.

Significant Financial Hardship: Are you the sole provider for your spouse and family and cannot quit your current job and cannot move? (Test: You must have taxable dependents or legal reasons)

Reviewed: Have you had your resume reviewed by Career Services, your Advisor, AND a professional from your field? Also, run your resume through, and improve it by 10 pts or until green. https://www.vmock.com/byui

Job Search: You are looking for a paid internship that is full time or about 300-500 hours for 10-14 weeks. Can be part-time over 20-24 weeks, but still in the 300-500-hour range.

Due Diligence: Students that have had their resume reviewed multiple times (Career Services, Advisor, Professional, or by V-Mock) along with applying (documented) to over 100 jobs with over 20 different companies over three to six months period, have done their due diligence.

History has shown that students will find internships around the 25th job (+/- 20) and the 75th (+/- 20) application, and most companies take 1-4 months to hire.

Unpaid Internship: Do you have the ability and resources to do an unpaid internship? If yes, ask around your hometown, Rexburg, School departments, or organizations for Internship opportunities. i.e., RBDC, IT, Library.

Unpaid internship (250-400 hours worth of work) is more than a Sr. Project (max 120 hrs.), and you need to be on a team with a person to report. It can't be your project.

ECEN/CS 490 Special Topic: Professional Career Preparation
CSE 490 is a predefined special topics three-credit course, you will be expected to spend 9-10 hrs/week (total 120, standard expectation for a 3-credit course) working on an instructor-arranged company-sponsored project. In addition, as with the internship course, you will be working on career preparation activities.

Note: Alternate path is subject to change, as situations change and program approval. Future paths may require additional classes or pre-requisites. Please contact Brother Clements (clementsw@byui.edu) for updated information, to discuss options, and get approval for this path. **Since the course is much more than what is found in a Sr. Project, this course will not be substituted for CSE 499 Sr. Project. No other CSE 490 Special Topics course will be used as a substitution for CSE 398.**
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