



An Intern's Experience

By: Pranav Jain, Internal Audit Unit Intern

From the moment I applied for my internship with the New Jersey Department of the Treasury (Treasury), I recognized the unique learning opportunity it presented. During my interview, my supervisor emphasized the close-knit nature of the internal audit team, and I realized I could contribute meaningfully within the Office of Internal Audit. From planning and executing a project focused on identifying and analyzing patterns of improper expenditures to networking with treasury leadership, I engaged directly with management and gained valuable insights.

Balancing full-time university studies with meaningful professional experience honed my time management and prioritization skills. Given the volume of projects our division handled, I learned to prioritize tasks effectively while immersing myself in the professional environment.

My first project involved researching and conducting comparative analysis to identify recurring deficiencies in audit case assignments. One of the highlights of this experience was presenting my findings in a formal presentation to my supervisor. The opportunity to receive detailed feedback in a supportive setting helped me strengthen my communication and analytical skills.

Through interactions with treasury leadership, I broadened my understanding of the diverse career paths available in the public sector. Conversations with senior administrators offered valuable perspectives on transitioning between private and public sector roles and the emphasis on the importance of workforce diversity initiatives within the organization. Observing their professional journeys and dedication to public service was both inspiring and motivating.

Overall, working at Treasury expanded my view of what an accounting career could look like. While I once thought success in the field required following a traditional path through major firms, this experience showed me there are many rewarding avenues within the profession. This realization has given me greater confidence and excitement for what the future holds.