Subject: Gifted (TAG) Career Internship Course Information & Application Process 2025-26

Dear Gifted Students and Parents:

As registration for the 2025-2026 school year approaches, we want to make you aware of an elective opportunity for Gifted (TAG) Juniors and Seniors: The Gifted Career Internship Program.

Gifted Internship is an elective class offered exclusively to TAG Juniors and Seniors. The FCS Gifted Internship Program collaborates with community partners to place students in professional internships where students will engage in authentic career exploration opportunities. The Gifted Internship program employs Internship Program Advisors who work to secure and place students in internships that align with the students' career goals for career exploration. This year we have almost 80 students participating in our internship program in a variety of fields ranging from tech start-ups to veterinarian offices, and everything in between. It is important to emphasize that this program is for career exploration – not simply building a resume.

By participating in the Gifted Internship Program, students benefit from the following:

- Experiencing firsthand the realities involved in a particular profession.
- Deciding and planning their future based on facts gained from experience.
- Developing networking skills while networking with professionals.
- Receiving professional evaluations from supervisors and reflecting on personal growth.
- Setting professional goals and working to attain them.

You can learn more about the FCS Gifted Career Internship Program at IA here.

Informational Meeting:

There will be an informational meeting for rising 11th and 12th grade TAG students on **Thursday, December 12th** during 4th and 5th lunches in **Hubs 382/384**. The presentation will be shared with students and parents through the Beacon the following Friday.

Prerequisites:

- Student must be a rising Junior or Senior
- Student must have an unweighted GPA of 90 or higher
- Student must be enrolled in the FCS Gifted Program (TAG)
- Student must have room in their schedule to take the Internship course.
- Student must have at least one dual enrollment, virtual class, and/or senior reduction in addition to the internship course.

Application

Gifted students meeting the prerequisite requirements interested in participating in the Gifted Internship Program course will need to complete an application and obtain a teacher recommendation. These applications will be reviewed by a committee. Relevant factors that will be considered include the applicant's academic, attendance and discipline records; schedule; teacher recommendation and interview with Internship teacher. Selection into this program is competitive, and not every student who applies will be accepted.

The application will be made available Friday, December 13th to TAG students through their FCS email address.

The application will be completed online; however, a hard copy of the FCS Internship Program Contract signed by the student and parent must be turned into the designated spot in the front office by **Wednesday**, **February 5 at 4pm**. No late applications will be accepted.

FAQ:

How are students approved to participate in the Gifted Internship program?

Students will be approved for internship based upon their application responses; academic, attendance and discipline records; availability schedule; transportation; and teacher recommendation. Not every student who applies will be accepted.

When will students be informed whether they have been selected for the Gifted Internship program and is anything further required to be enrolled in the Internship course?

Students will be notified in February whether they have been conditionally selected to participate in the internship program. The course will be added to their schedule during the course verification process. Approved students will attend a group interview with FCS Career Advisors as well as a resume writing workshop to prepare for site placement interviews.

How many internships can a student complete through the Gifted Internship Program?

Internships are semester long commitment. Students can participate in up to four internships (4 semesters), two during their junior year and two during their senior year. Students will be encouraged to explore a different internship and/or career field each semester.

Will the school provide transportation for my student to get to their internship?

No. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the internship site.

Will I get paid for my internship?

Internships are unpaid. The student receives GA High School Graduation Credits for their efforts in lieu of financial compensation. The internship is a course on the student's schedule and they will receive a numeric grade like any other course.

What if I don't have room in my course schedule to take Internship as a class?

Internship is a class, and students MUST have room in their academic schedule to take the Internship class. At IA, a student must have a virtual course (Dual Enrollment, FVS, or GAVS) and/or a senior reduction period on their schedule the semester they plan to take the internship course. We have found that an asynchronous dual enrollment course (or more) provides the most flexibility in a student's schedule.

Can I participate in Internship if I participate in extracurricular activities?

Possibly. This will be determined on an individual basis based on the student's academic and extracurricular schedule. Students will be required to have a 2–3-hour block of uninterrupted time

they can commit to attending their off-campus internship several days per week. Students are required to log 5 hours at their site each week for a total of 70 hours during the semester.

Can I participate in Internship and Work-Based Learning (WBL)?

No. Students should choose between either Gifted Internship or WBL.



If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Brown at <u>BrownD12@fultonschools.org</u>

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