

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Elissa Pantalone

Graduation Semester & Year: May 2021

Semester & Year of Internship: Spring 2021

Major: Management: Accounting

Minor: Criminal Justice

Hobbies: Watching Netflix, listening to music, hanging out with friends

Campus Activities: Student Ambassador for Surgent CPA Review

Future Plans/Career Goals: My plans in the next year are to work for BDO in Pittsburgh and take the CPA exam! I hope to eventually become CPA certified and want to go into the forensic accounting field.

Hometown:

Latrobe, PA



- **Internship (company/your title):**
Emmett A. Pais CPA PC, Tax Intern
- **How did you find your internship?**
Through Professor Sharon Turchick
- **What were your duties?**
To prepare federal, state, and local tax returns for individuals and corporations. Also communicated with clients to collect tax support information
- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**
18-25 hours/week
- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**
The culture! Everyone I worked with was very nice and helpful. My boss, Emmett, really made sure you understood what was being done and why.
- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**
Training was a lot to learn all at once. However, once I started applying what I was taught it all came together and became easier.
- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Accounting department prepare you for your internship?**
Everything I have collectively learned in my accounting classes has been applicable to what I did on a daily basis at my internship. My corporate and individual tax accounting classes have especially been helpful in understanding why I do the things I do.
- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**
I will be working at BDO in the fall of 2021 as a Tax Associate so getting experience in tax work will definitely help the learning curve process at my new job.
- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**
DO THEM! and do more than one if you have the opportunity! Every internship is a really beneficial learning experience. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions. You are there to learn and your employer will understand.

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