INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Elissa Pantalone

Graduation Semester & Year: May 2021
Semester & Year of Internship: Spring 2021
Major: Management: Accounting
Minor: Criminal Justice
Hometown: Latrobe, PA
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.

- 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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