

The University of Texas at Austin (UT) University Transportation Center (UTC) Undergraduate Internship

Transportation at the Cockrell School of Engineering

If transportation interests you, the UTC Undergraduate Internship (UTC-UI) can help prepare you for admission to one of the highest ranked graduate programs in the nation*. The internship is an 11-week program that provides unique insight into transportation education and a possible career in the field.

The Internship

UTC-UI is jointly sponsored by two Tier 1 US Department of Transportation's University Transportation Centers: the Center for Highway Pavement Preservation (CHPP) (www.chpp.egr.msu.edu) and the Data-Supported Transportation Operations and Planning (D-STOP) Center (www.dstop.utexas.edu). The USDOT funds this internship for the purpose of increasing the quality, number, and diversity of professionals entering the transportation sector. The program will offer up to ten selected undergraduate students the opportunity to gain firsthand experience in conducting highway and transportation studies and actively participate in transportation research with graduate students under the supervision of transportation faculty members. Drs. Jorge Prozzi and Stephen Boyles are the internship coordinators for the CHPP and D-STOP centers, respectively.

Lectures

All UTC-UI interns are enrolled in a colloquium series designed to introduce them to different aspects of the transportation field. Over the 11 weeks there will be weekly lectures on a wide range of topics on transportation given by distinguished academics and practicing engineers. Lectures are intended to be informal so as to encourage discussion. Students participating in the internship will be exposed to active research projects.

CHPP

The Center for Highway Pavement Preservation is aimed at providing a new platform for accelerating innovation in highway pavement preservation because, as recognized by the US Congress, we need to protect the massive national highway infrastructure investment. The Center is a partnership between Michigan State University, UT Austin, The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, the University of Minnesota, the University of Hawaii, and North Carolina A&T University.

D-STOP

UT Austin's D-STOP center is a collaboration between the transportation group in the Department of Civil Engineering and the wireless networking and communications group in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and is aimed at developing and exploring applications of new sensing technologies to improve transportation planning and operations, including innovative traffic control and connected/automated vehicles.

*UT Austin's Cockrell School of Engineering is ranked #9, the Department of Civil Engineering is ranked #4, and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering is ranked #8.



Support

Interns who are not current UT students will each receive a fellowship of \$4,500 over the 11-week period of the program. UT student interns will each receive a fellowship of \$3,500.

Internship Schedule

This 11-week program begins Tuesday, May 28, 2019 and ends Friday, August 9, 2019, and is intended to be a demanding as well as rewarding experience. Interns will be assigned to one or two ongoing transportation engineering research projects and are expected to work a minimum of 20 hours per week on that project. However, students tend to devote a great deal more than the required minimum hours per week on their projects. Weekends and evenings are not officially scheduled with activities, although interns in previous years have spent this time with fellow interns and graduate students.

Austin, Texas

Austin is a unique mix of urban sophistication and relaxed charm. Geographically, Austin is in the center of the Texas Hill Country and features rivers, lakes, and natural coldwater springs as well as an extensive green belt with endless hike and bike trails. Austin is the “live music capitol of the world” and contains a rich variety of live music, nightclubs, and restaurants. Home to three universities, Austin offers a great deal in the way of cultural events, lectures, films, sports events and museum exhibits. UT Austin’s campus alone is an incredible experience and contains an impressive selection of facilities ranging from the renowned Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs Library to the state-of-the-art Recreational Sports Center.

Accommodations

Participants are encouraged to use the room and board plans provided by UT Austin. UT summer housing info is available at <http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing/> or contact the Housing and Food Service Office directly at (512) 471-3136. This office also maintains information on nearby off-campus housing should applicants prefer to house themselves.

Admission Eligibility/Selection Criteria

The internship is open to any currently enrolled college engineering junior or senior seriously considering a graduate education in transportation. Students graduating before December 2019 are ineligible. The internship accepts students who have the desire and ability to work on transportation research projects and demonstrated computer, math, and writing skills. The UTC-UI participants selected will be notified of their acceptance no later than Monday, April 8, 2019. Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for fellowships; other students in the U.S. are welcome to apply if they do not require financial support.

Application Procedure

The deadline for application to the program is Friday, March 29, 2019. To apply, complete the attached application form and submit it with a resume, a personal one-page essay describing your interests and career goals, official transcripts, and two letters of recommendation. Please send all materials to either of the addresses provided on the application (*application materials and references may be submitted via email*).

UTC-UI Application Form

Name: _____

Current mailing address: _____

Current address good until: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Permanent address: _____

Date of birth: _____

Current school or college: _____

Expected graduation date: _____

Credit hours completed in major: _____

Total credit hours completed: _____

GPA (cumulative): _____

GPA (in major): _____

Area of interest in transportation: _____

Names of recommenders: _____

Citizenship/immigration status: _____

(Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for fellowships; other students in the U.S. are welcome to apply if they do not require financial support.)

Send this completed application plus the other required materials (a resume; a personal one-page essay describing your interests and career goals; official transcripts; and two letters of recommendation) to either of the following addresses:

Jorge A. Prozzi
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The University of Texas at Austin
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ECJ 6.112
Austin, Texas 78712-1172
prozzi@mail.utexas.edu

Stephen D. Boyles
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The University of Texas at Austin
301 E. Dean Keeton St. C1761
ECJ 6.204
Austin, Texas 78712-1172
sboyles@mail.utexas.edu

Note: All interns selected for the program are required to commit to being at UT Austin in person during the entire period of the internship.