

Internship: Lead a project focused on pollution prevention at a braille signage and awards manufacturing facility.

Company: Advance Corporation – Cottage Grove, MN

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on waste reduction with Advance Corporation in Cottage Grove, MN. The intern will work with MnTAP and Advance Corporation staff to optimize the facility's wastewater treatment system for waste and chemical reduction. The intern will also lead efforts to identify and test alternate paints to achieve lower generation of VOCs. The intern will quantify these opportunities and develop suggestions to increase efficiency, as well as outline plans for implementation.

JOB DUTIES:

As part of this project, you will be asked to complete the following tasks:

1. Identify and quantify water, chemical, and waste inputs and outputs in the etching and wastewater treatment processes.
2. Analyze materials and equipment used for wastewater treatment. Work with company staff to determine opportunities to downsize and/or remove equipment.
3. Research alternate paints and solvent cleaners containing lower VOCs. Lead efforts to trial identified options and evaluate performance and product quality.
4. As time allows, investigate energy efficiency and water conservation opportunities throughout the facility.
5. Make recommendations for specific improvements based on research and testing that will result in VOC use reduction, water, and energy efficiency opportunities.
6. Estimate waste reduction from implementation of provided recommendations, and then prioritize suggested changes using simple payback methods for financial justification.
7. As appropriate, initiate implementation of approved process changes or develop plans for future implementation.
8. Summarize findings in a detailed report, including recommended procedures and vendor proposals along with an economic analysis and justification of changes.
9. Present findings to the company and at MnTAP-hosted public presentation events.

As an intern, you will work at the company and report back to MnTAP. The position is full time, 40 hours per week, for three months to start after the conclusion of spring semester or quarter. Pay is \$16/hour, with a lump sum stipend of \$1,000 upon completion of the project deliverables: a final report and presentations. Cumulatively, this equates to \$18.00/hour when averaged over the project. Candidates must pass a background check.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Good oral & written communication skills
- A technical academic background
- Troubleshooting skills
- Self-motivated
- Excel and other software skills
- Appropriate majors: *Engineering, environmental or physical sciences and others as applicable*

TO APPLY:

Apply online at:

www.mntap.umn.edu/intern/student_apply.htm

Remember to submit your application form, cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript.

Applications can be addressed to:

Matt Domski, Intern Program Manager

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MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY