

Internship: Lead a project focused on the development, trial and implementation of strategies that minimize waste from single-use packaging materials.

Company: U Market Services, University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, MN

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) is seeking a junior or senior college student to lead a project focused on solid waste reduction with U Market Services, a University of Minnesota procurement and delivery service. The intern will work with MnTAP and U Market staff to map transport packaging material use into and out of U Market warehouses. The intern will also develop a pilot project to demonstrate and measure solid waste reduction achievable through implementation of reusable transport packaging as well as identifying any logistics challenges and opportunities to overcome those challenges.

JOB DUTIES:

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

1. Create a materials flow map of cardboard and other packaging materials into, within, and out of the U Market warehouse.
2. Use the materials flow map to identify an on campus location suitable for a reusable delivery packaging pilot project.
3. Research material needs, develop a plan, and implement a reusable delivery packaging pilot project
4. Measure environmental impacts and business costs for pilot implementation project and potential scale up implementation.
5. As time permits expand reusable delivery packaging pilot project to an additional site.
6. Analyze and quantify warehouse waste to identify opportunities for source reduction and optimize recycling system to ensure proper disposition of recycling and trash.
7. Estimate material and waste reduction potential from implementation of provided recommendations, then prioritize suggested changes using simple payback methods for financial justification.
8. As appropriate, initiate implementation of approved process changes and develop plans for future implementation areas.
9. Summarize findings in a detailed report, including recommended procedures and vendor proposals along with an economic analysis and justification of changes.
10. 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. Please note: All employees at the University of Minnesota are required to report complete vaccination against COVID-19 or submit documentation requesting a medical or religious exemption on their first day of employment. To learn more, please visit the [University's COVID-19 Response webpage](#).

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

200 Oak Street SE, Suite 350-1

Minneapolis, MN 55455 • mdomski@umn.edu

MNTAP IS THE HIRING BODY: DO NOT CONTACT THE COMPANY