The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has established the Freight Transportation Industry Internship (FTII) as a new element of its Freight Professional Development (FPD) Program. The intent of the FTII is to enable the public and private sectors to better understand the world in which the other operates. This will result in better communications among the freight transportation stakeholders and improving transportation decision making.

Post Internship: Sharing Lessons Learned

Lessons from each FTII experience should be shared by the individual participant with others in the public agency and host industry.

- Exit discussion
  - Where and when this is held, who attends, and what is covered should be a joint decision of the participant and the industry sponsor
  - Focus on opportunities for collaboration and partnership in the future
  - What are the best ways to engage the private sector as partners
  - Benefits of private sector participants engaging in public sector transportation decision making
  - A discussion of the understanding gained by the intern through the internship experience and how it will make a difference in their agency’s decision making

- Presentations, discussion groups, or brief reports to others in their agency and other stakeholders in their state and region

- Reverse Internships
  - Public sector agencies could also offer private sector individuals an opportunity to participate in an internship in their public sector agency.
  - This will allow private sector individuals to gain a deeper understanding of the public sector transportation decision making process.

For additional information contact:
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FHWA
Freight Transportation Industry Internship

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Overview

The FTII is intended as a skill building training experience with information and outreach support provided by FHWA's Office of Freight Management and Operations. The primary component will be a national internship program, followed by a public sector component. A state internship program (FHWA, state DOTs, public sector agencies) and a public sector component will be conducted. The internship will be conducted in a host company, organization, or government agency. The internship must take place in a private company or organization, but for reverse could also occur. FHWA can provide assistance when requested.

The internship experience will:
- Help in Identifying the Internship Host Company
- Help in matching the host company's needs and the intern's educational and future career goals.
- Bring intermodal perspectives into the FTII.
- Focus on private sector decision making and private sector organizational processes.
- Make the private sector more aware of potential liability issues or necessary liability releases beforehand.
- Bring a better understanding of:
  - Volume and value of goods shipped
  - Transportation issues that shippers and carriers face on a routine basis
  - Third-party logistic (3PL) suppliers
  - Intermediaries. Serves as a troubleshooter, dealing with problems
  - Documentation, and varying customs regulations, developing
  - Methods to understand, predict, and enhance supply chain processes.
  - The director of operations is responsible for the efficient and effective
  - Equipment for storage, loading, and delivery of goods. Responsible for
  - A logistics analyst is responsible for a broad range of activities. Employed
  - The director of operations is responsible for the efficient and effective
  - Methods to understand, predict, and enhance supply chain processes.
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