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Impact of Internships on Salary Offers

Want to convince your students of the value of internships to employers? Let the money do the talking.

In terms of starting salary offers, there is a definite financial advantage for students who have internship experience, according to results of NACE's *2010 Student Survey*. Overall, students in the Class of 2010 who had internships received an average salary offer of \$41,580. Meanwhile, their classmates who didn't take internships received an average starting salary offer of \$34,601.

By major, the biggest discrepancy came among computer science majors; those with internship experience received an average starting salary offer of \$58,920 while those without internships received an offer of \$45,000.

Major	Average Offer to Students Without Internships	Average Offer to Students With Internships
Social science	\$26,251	\$32,487
Engineering	\$51,862	\$60,341
Computer science	\$45,000	\$58,920
Business	\$35,000	\$41,654
Accounting	\$43,217	\$46,723
Overall	\$34,601	\$41,580

NACE's *2010 Student Survey* was conducted February 9, 2010, through April 30, 2010. More than 31,470 students representing more than 400 colleges and universities nationwide took part; more than 13,000 of those were graduating seniors. A final report on the study's findings will be available later this year.