

I want you to tell me whether you think internships are vital to the Social Work curriculum. Let me know your thoughts, and tell me why or why not.

For the social work curriculum, I see where internships are vital. I did not have a BSW and going for my MSW. I knew I wanted to be a social worker, but I did not know all that came with it. Now having my internship, I can see how social is done in the field and how this may relate to specific experiences I may have in my social work career. Being in the field, I have learned a lot of positive and negative things. I have seen how office politics work, and how grace can be extended to Co-workers and clients. The importance of the internship for me in my generalist year is to get my “feet wet” with what my expectations will be and learn how to be a competent social worker. However, this role of a social worker is very different from other occupations I have had. The internship helps you relate what you are learning in real-time in a practice setting.

Now that I am preparing for my specialization year, I am mostly getting the VA internship. I am very excited and a bit nervous about this. I can't wait to get out there and help on one hand. On the other hand, I heard there are a lot of problems that are system related that can cause hiccups to services for veterans and their families. This is a goal of mine to work in the VA system, and I hope to help veterans and advocate for them and their families. Also I would hope that eventually, after I learn about the VA system and possible issues I can help try and facilitate changes to help the system and the veterans.