

My internship at JumboTax, a startup with a mission to revolutionize the tax industry, is a 10-week program designed for software engineering. It offers hands-on experience in both software development and the operational management of the organization. By leveraging AI technology, JumboTax aims to reduce housing taxes through real-time, accurate property evaluations.

Throughout this immersive experience, I'll collaborate closely with a team of senior developers and peers. Unlike traditional internships at well-established companies, my role at JumboTax will place me in the heart of a dynamic startup environment. Here, I will be deeply involved, often navigating tasks with considerable independence, constantly vigilant, and taking on significant responsibility. This includes leading a major segment of the project focused on web development, along with contributing to AI initiatives. I anticipate that this hands-on, high-responsibility environment will significantly enhance my skill set and professional growth, despite the challenges and workload it entails.

My previous roles in more established companies offered structured learning experiences but limited autonomy, allowing me to refine various skills without the opportunity to fully lead or manage projects. The longing for a more impactful, autonomous role is a driving force in my career aspirations, underscoring my desire for leadership and innovative problem-solving.

Moreover, this internship will extend beyond technical skills, incorporating aspects of company operations, stand-up meetings, workshops, and collaborations with other organizations. These experiences are designed to enrich my understanding of the startup ecosystem and foster invaluable connections with like-minded professionals and industry leaders. This network, cultivated in the unique environment of JumboTax, will be instrumental in my professional journey, offering insights, mentorship, and opportunities that align with my career goals in technology and entrepreneurship.

As an international student with aspirations in tech entrepreneurship, navigating the intricacies of immigration while seeking employment presents a formidable challenge. In today's competitive landscape, acquiring relevant experience is crucial for advancing. However, my opportunities for work experience in the United States have been limited, making this internship at JumboTax especially significant. It represents a vital entry point into the job market that aligns with my career ambitions.

Currently in my sophomore year, the absence of an internship opportunity in the U.S. last year marked a significant setback for me. Encountering a similar situation this year would further hinder my progress. Consequently, I view this internship not just as a job but as a crucial step to recover from last year's setback and to firmly establish myself in the industry as it offers lessons that I believe will serve me no matter where my career takes me.

Budget: 10 weeks internship for the summer of 2024.

Expense	Amount
Accommodation	\$1200 x 3 Months = \$3600
Household Expenses (Internet, Water, and electricity)	\$200 x 3 Months = \$600
Round Trip Airfare to Philadelphia	\$430
Professional Development (Udemey personal plan)	\$20 x 3 Months = \$60
Meals/Groceries	\$115 x 3 Months = \$345
SEPTA Monthly Pass	\$183 x 3 Months = \$387
Professional Attire (1 suit)	\$150
Personal Expenses and Entertainment	\$100 x 3 Months = \$300
Total Expenses	\$5872

*Relevant links for the estimated expenses:

Accommodation: (Outside of Center) [https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Philadelphia#:~:text=Summary%20of%20cost%20of%20living,New%20York%20\(without%20rent\).](https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Philadelphia#:~:text=Summary%20of%20cost%20of%20living,New%20York%20(without%20rent).)

Flights: <https://www.united.com/en/us/traveler/choose-travelers?cartId=EC2C3EEE-1784-4F78-A230-29C7E32FBC55&tqp=R>

Udemy Personal Plan Subscription: https://www.udemy.com/personal-plan/?ref=plans_comparison_summary

SEPTA Monthly Pass: (Anywhere) <https://www.abington.psu.edu/campus-life/parking-and-transportation/SEPTA-Key-Monthly-Pass-Program>

Professional Attire: <https://www.macys.com/shop/product/alfani-mens-slim-fit-stretch-solid-suit-jacket-created-for-macys?ID=13203504&swatchColor=Blue%20Plaid>