A Day in the Life of a KeyBank Corporate Strategy Intern

Here’s what you can expect in our Intern Program.
We asked Interns who’ve been through this career-path program to answer the most frequently asked questions about this position. Graham, in Cleveland, Ohio, shared some experiences as a Corporate Strategy Intern.

Q. Describe a day in the life of an Intern in this program.
Days vary depending on the project, but there is a mixture of working at your desk versus attending meetings. There is a combination of long-term projects that involve collaboration with various lines of business and smaller projects that have a quick turnaround. Example projects include M&A target identification, analysis of strategic fit, financial modeling and valuation, peer benchmarking, development of board presentations, strategic planning, and business case development.

Q. What is the typical career path for someone that starts as an Intern in this program?
The career path post-Corporate Strategy is typically undefined because there are a multitude of projects that align to various lines of business that a Strategy Intern can work on. While Key currently does not have a campus Corporate Strategy Analyst Program, the conversion of Interns to full-time roles after graduation has historically been high.

Q. What would you say are the most important traits an Intern needs to be most successful in this program?

• Intellectual curiosity – Strategy covers a wide range of material and there is always something to be learned with each project. It is important to have a genuine interest to learn about what it is you are working on.

• Positive Attitude – Strategy is a highly collaborative group and it makes work a lot easier and more enjoyable if everyone has a positive attitude. Look at every upcoming job as an opportunity to grow and become a better analyst.

• Tenacity – A majority of the projects we take on involve high levels of detail with hard deadlines and you have to be willing to grind at times to get the work done. There are times where presentation materials can take multiple iterations of editing/improving upon prior to completion.

Q. What is your favorite part of being an Intern in this program?
One of my favorite parts is the exposure to multiple lines of business at Key. You are exposed to various segments of the bank, rather than specializing in one area. It is also a great experience to be exposed to a variety of different kinds of work; no day is the same.

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Q. What do I need to know before applying for the Program?

Preferred Majors: Accounting, Finance, Economics, Management Information Systems

Minimum GPA: Minimum cumulative 3.3 GPA required, 3.5 GPA preferred.

Certifications: As an intern, you are not required to obtain a particular certification.