



Australian Government

Defence

diip

Defence Industry Internship Program

Year in Review
2021/2022

diip.com.au

Powered by QTAC



2021 DIIP REVIEW

Now in its fourth year since QTAC commenced administration of the Defence Industry Internship Program (DIIP), it continues to grow from strength to strength.

With the global pandemic continuing on into its second year, our QTAC staff were able to ensure that two check-ins were undertaken for each participant. Our spread throughout South Australia and Queensland meant that visits in these states were held in person, whilst visits in other states and territories were mostly online. As travel started to ease in the first quarter of 2022, we were able to meet with many students and SME's face to face, specifically those in NSW, WA, TAS and NT.



OUR SME'S HAVE TOLD US:

Our interns continue to impress their host SME's with their enthusiasm and knowledge, with many host companies commenting that their interns compare favourably with graduate engineers. We believe this is due to the large number of applicants received each year, averaging between 700 and 1000, which means that the highest achieving and most suitable students are selected for a DIIP internship. We work closely with our host companies, establishing exactly their needs and requirements for an intern and then assess and interview the candidates to ensure that the most suitable applicant is matched with the relevant host.

Our SME's also interview short listed candidates so that they get the final choice of intern. Many of our hosts tell us that they are looking for potential future employees, so the choice and quality of the intern placed with them is of utmost importance as it often leads to ongoing employment offers. This may be in the form of short term contract work, or part time work whilst the student completes their final year of studies, or in the case of final year students, can be a full time permanent job offer at completion of the internship period. We find it extremely rewarding to be instrumental in assisting our students to achieve an internship offer which could be the start of their future career in the defence industry.

Having the DIIP Interns embedded into the Skykraft team this summer has been really valuable. The candidates had gone through rigorous pre-screening and came to the company enthusiastic, rounded, with good-academics and capable of taking on a surprising level of responsibility. Feedback from the Interns was very positive. Thanks QTAC.

Doug Griffin, Chief Engineer
Skykraft

Managing a business has proven even more difficult over the past two years. The key to peak performance is to have key employees with the right skills in suitable roles. The Defence Industry Internship Program has provided this for Jehbco over these difficult years on three occasions, with each candidate going onto secure full time employment within the company. This is a testament to the quality personnel the program is producing. I would recommend it to any employer looking for a key position to be filled with minimum fuss and fantastic results.

Karl Tuynman
Jehbco Silicone

OUR INTERNS HAVE TOLD US:

Our interns are all looking to gain practical experience in the workplace, something which they acknowledge cannot be taught at university. At the site visits most of our students tell us that they have learned more in 12 weeks of the internship that in the past year at university. All that theory just falls into place when presented with the high tech equipment and machinery offered by our host companies and the interns love the practical hands on nature of the work.

They also enjoy the mentoring and support of great engineers who most often are keen to impart skills and knowledge to their young interns and see them grow in confidence as the internship progresses. Many students were not previously aware of the range of career opportunities to be found in the defence industry and once they start working with the cutting edge technology available, they realise that the defence industry offers wonderful future career prospects. Many defence industry careers have commenced with a DIIP internship.



**Ryan & Dina, Interns
Advanced Composites**



I was very lucky to have spent a summer interning at Defendtex. It is hard to put into words how valuable this experience has been for my development as an engineer and as a person. The technology and opportunities provided to me as a undergraduate student were incredible, as were the projects I worked on. Working among talented professional engineers who provided me with thorough knowledge was also a highlight. Thank-you DIIP for the support and providing this enhancing experience. I am forever indebted.

**Hunter Griffin, Intern
Defendtex**



Being placed at a company through the DIIP program has been an amazing learning experience far beyond what I learnt at university. Not only did I gain industry exposure, but I also gained a lot of new knowledge in a range of engineering disciplines beyond my own which I believe has set me up to be a better engineer in the future. Alongside that, working in the industry was a great chance to work with others and lead my own project to present outcomes and implement things onsite.

**Neha Khairajani, Intern
Chemring**



**David, Luke & Grace, Interns
Skykraft**



For more information, please visit:

W: www.diip.com.au

E: defenceinternships@qtac.com.au

T: 07 3858 1213



Australian Government

Defence

Powered by **QTAC**