

DON DUNSTAN FOUNDATION

We are very pleased to have you on board and look forward to supporting your internship with us.

This Intern Guide is aimed at giving you additional insight into the Don Dunstan Foundation and our work, with some practical information about what to expect through your internship experience.

Who was Don Dunstan?

Don Dunstan was a progressive South Australian politician known for his charisma and commitment to social justice. He served as the Premier of South Australia from June 1967 to April 1968, and again between June 1970 and February 1979. Many of his reforms are still in place today, and many were the first of their kind in Australia, such as reforms in sex discrimination, Aboriginal land rights and consumer protection.

Don Dunstan was passionate about all areas of social justice, and a leading campaigner for many issues including indigenous rights, immigration reform, anti-discrimination laws, environment protection, women's rights, and arts and education. He was often said to be well ahead of his time.

What is the Don Dunstan Foundation?

The Don Dunstan Foundation is a thought leadership organisation that exists to perpetuate the memory and reflect the life's work of Don Dunstan in line with our Guiding Principles and in the context of South Australia's unique position as a model for reform and role as a world-leader. Our current strategic priorities focus on housing and homelessness, indigenous empowerment, climate justice and the Dunstan legacy. We do this through collaborative projects to inspire action for a fairer world, public education and education activities, and perpetuating the memory and life's work of Don Dunstan.

The Foundation was established in 1999 in partnership with The University of Adelaide and Flinders University, with support from the South Australian State Government, to ensure that Don Dunstan's social reform agenda lives on.

We have an executive team, led by the Executive Director, who reports to the Board of Directors through the Committee of Management, and is responsible for the operations and outcomes for the Foundation. The Committee of Management is a diverse and dynamic group of representatives from the two partner universities, and other community representatives, who support and guide the team in delivering the Foundation's strategic priorities.

We are supported by in-kind contributions from The University of Adelaide and Flinders University, and work in partnership with researchers, academics and professional staff in delivering our activities each year. We also partner with a range of other community organisations and businesses, on specific events or projects that align with our strategic directions.

INTERNSHIPS

Culture of the Don Dunstan Foundation

We aim for the Don Dunstan Foundation to be a welcoming and engaging place. We value teamwork, inclusivity, and a positive vibe. We're open-minded, organised, and believe in trying new things. We want your internship to be enjoyable and valuable, where you learn and grow, and we appreciate the fresh perspectives interns bring.

Your internship

Depending on your pathway to becoming an intern, and the requirements of your university or tertiary institution's work integrated learning program, you may come on board as a research or project intern.

Most internships will be based on a specific topic pre-agreed with your university but the Foundation is also able to offer internship placements for interested students from other courses or institutions.

Research Internship:

A research intern will investigate one (or more) of our focus areas, and the impacts it is having on South Australian communities. Responsibilities include literature reviews, data/case study analysis, policy review, and report writing. Ideal candidates will have strong research skills, communication, data proficiency, and a passion for Indigenous issues and climate change.

Resource Development Internship:

A Resource Development Intern will create educational resources fact sheets, and data point, all to be used to frame the importance of the Don Dunstan Foundation's work. These resources will all connect to our main focus areas; Climate Justice, Dunstan Legacy, Housing and Homelessness, Aboriginal Empowerment and Arts and Civil Society.

Social Media & Marketing Internship:

A Social Media & Marketing Intern will support the Don Dunstan Foundation's online presence and marketing efforts. This role will involve creating engaging content for social media, assisting with marketing campaigns, and analysing social media metrics. Ideal candidates will have strong communication skills, creativity, and a passion for social justice.

Event Management & Community Engagement Internship:

An Event Management & Community Engagement Intern will assist in the planning and execution of the Don Dunstan Foundations events and community engagement initiatives. This role will involve coordinating logistics, engaging with community partners, and promoting events. Ideal candidates will have strong organisational skills, communication skills, and a passion for social justice.

EXPERIENCE & OUTCOMES

At the Don Dunstan Foundation, we're dedicated to fostering a collaborative and enriching internship experience. We believe your time with us should be a valuable opportunity for professional growth, personal development, and meaningful contribution to social justice. We're committed to working closely with you to ensure your internship aligns with your academic goals and career aspirations.

What You'll Gain:

- **Real-World Experience:** You'll apply your academic knowledge to practical projects, gaining hands-on experience in areas like research, event management, communications, and community engagement.
- Skill Development: You'll refine and enhance essential skills, including:
 - Research and analysis
 - Communication and presentation
 - Project management and organisation
 - o Digital content creation and social media management
 - Community engagement and stakeholder relations
- **Networking Opportunities:** You'll connect with professionals in the social justice sector, academics, policymakers, and community leaders, building valuable relationships for your future career.
- **Meaningful Contribution:** You'll directly contribute to projects that address critical social issues and promote positive change in South Australia, making a tangible difference in our community.
- **Understanding of Social Justice:** You'll gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of social justice issues and the role of advocacy in driving change.
- **Professional Portfolio Development:** You'll create tangible work samples that can be added to your professional portfolio, showcasing your skills and experience.
- **Personal Growth:** You'll develop your critical thinking, problem-solving, and adaptability skills, enhancing your personal and professional growth.
- Collaborative Environment: You'll work in a supportive and inclusive team environment where your ideas and contributions are valued. We prioritise open communication and collaboration to ensure you have the resources and support you need to succeed.
- **Alignment with Academic Goals:** We are committed to working with you and your university to tailor your internship experience to meet your specific academic requirements and learning objectives.

Our Commitment to Your Success:

We understand that every intern is unique, and we're dedicated to providing personalised support. We will:

- Work closely with you to define clear learning objectives and expectations.
- Provide regular feedback and guidance to support your development.
- Offer opportunities for you to contribute your ideas and take ownership of your projects.
- Create a supportive and inclusive environment where you feel valued and respected.
- Ensure that your internship is a valuable and rewarding experience that contributes to your academic and professional success.

