



PACIFIC
COOPERATION
FOUNDATION



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
Manatū Aorere

New Zealand Scholarships Internship Programme 2023



Bula Vinaka, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Fakatalofa atu, Gude, Halo, Kam nau mauri, Kia
orana, Mālō e lelei, Mālō nī, Noa'ia, Talofa lava

**Introducing the Pacific
Cooperation Foundation
Nurturing Tomorrow's
Leaders through Summer
Internships**

Introduction

Overview

The Summer Internships program, under PCF, is not just a conventional internship; it's a gateway to a world of possibilities. At its core, the program seeks to provide Manāaki scholars with an immersive experience that surpasses boundaries, cultures, and industries.

This unique opportunity is designed to offer scholars more than just a glimpse into the professional world; it's a chance to become global citizens, champions of diplomacy, and catalysts for change.

PCF has partnered with a diverse array of employers, corporates and organisations. These hosts have not only demonstrated excellence in their respective fields but also share our commitment to fostering cross-cultural exchange and investing in our leaders of tomorrow.

Interns will have the privilege to working alongside experts in their chosen fields, gaining hands-on-experience and contributing to real life projects.

Overarching Objectives

- 1. Capacity Building:** Through this program, we aim to empower Manaaki Scholars from the Pacific region, providing them with practical skills and experiences that will contribute to their personal and professional development.
- 2. Knowledge Transfer:** We believe in the power of knowledge sharing, and this program facilitates the exchange of ideas, expertise, and insights between scholars and their Kiwi counterparts.
- 3. Cultural Exchange:** Our internships offer an opportunity for scholars to immerse themselves in corporate Aotearoa while sharing their own unique Pacific perspectives.
- 4. Networking and Relationship Building:** This program helps scholars build valuable relationships that can extend beyond their time in New Zealand.
- 5. Support Development:** We are dedicated to supporting scholars in their journey to return to their home countries equipped with newfound skills and experiences, contributing to the sustainable development of their communities.
- 6. Promote Sustainable Development:** Sustainability is a key focus, and our program aims to instil values and practices that promote sustainable development, both in New Zealand and the Pacific region.

Goals of the Internship

1. Capacity Building and Skill Development

- Develop Transferrable Skills – Soft & Hard Skills
- Build capacity by facilitating the exchange of skills, knowledge and best practices between NZ and Pacific Island nations.

2. Cultivate Cross-Cultural Understanding & Enhance Professional Development

- PCF will facilitate meaningful cross-cultural interactions between Manaaki scholars and employers in Aotearoa, New Zealand to foster understanding and mutual respect

3. Expand Professional Networks

- PCF can establish connections with alumnae that will lead to future collaboration.
- The PCF Internship program will ensure that the scholars develop a stronger connection and affinity with NZ during and after their internship experience

How it works

1. The internship with PCF will be for 6 weeks starting at the end of November 2024 and ending in mid-February 2024. The timeframe is subject to adjustment as per the specific needs and agreement between PCF and the intern.
2. Work Environment: The intern will be assigned to a host employer or organisations place of work
3. Reporting: The intern will report direct to Anji Naidu-Khan (PCF Supervisor) who will provide guidance, feedback and support throughout the internship.
4. Performance Evaluation: The intern's performance will be evaluated periodically and feedback will be provided to ensure continuous growth and development throughout the internship

Notes

- Progress reports will be shared at bi-weekly intervals to keep all stakeholders informed and address any emerging risks in a timely manner.
- Interns receive a stipend from MFAT during the internship period.
- The decision to provide a paid internship is not a requirement of the PCF programme however, provision of a paid internship is a matter for the host agency to determine.
- There is no placement fee.



Esmond Siope (Solomon Islands), Merari Nelson (Kiribati), Lania Temahua (Solomon Islands), Sela Maka (Tonga), Don Mann (PCF CEO), Talie Mundia (Samoa), Jack Philip (Vanuatu), Sonia De Oliveira (Timor-Leste) and Linda Kaua (PCF Programme Development Manager)



Encie Hilarai (Papua New Guinea), Lisa Tai (Associate Director, Risk Advisory, Deloitte), Leyla Niowenmal (Vanuatu)



Jason Glennon (Chief People Officer, Watercare Services Limited) and Florence Pauku (Solomon Islands)

Key Dates

DATES	ACTIVITY
Sept 23	Planning for Summer 23/24 Internship program commences
	Expressions of Interest – Call-Out for Interns to apply Applications available at www.pcf.org.nz
	Successful scholars selected
Oct 23	Employer Placements confirmed
Nov 23	Orientation evening for NZ Scholar interns and host agencies
	Internships commence
Dec 23	Mid-Term review Online survey is emailed to both interns and host employers
	Christmas Break
Jan 24	Resume Internship
Feb 24	Final Review - Online Survey emailed out to agencies
	Final review workshop for interns
	Excellence Event with host employers and stakeholders
	Internship Ends

Obligations

Interns

- Interns will be required to sign a contract during orientation with PCF.
- Interns will receive necessary upskilling and mentoring to prepare them for work.
- Interns are also allocated a supervisor/mentor during their PCF Internship program for support and assistance during their internship. Regular check-ins will be conducted to assess progress and provide feedback.
- Interns will be encouraged to provide feedback regularly during their internship.
- Interns receive a stipend from PCF that will be used towards travel and work related expenses. The stipend will be discussed with successful interns.

Host Employers & Organisations

PCF is seeking partnerships with host agencies that provide the following:

- Recognised best practice internship programmes.
- Workplace experiences and projects that add value to skill sets.
- Value diversity and inclusion.

PCF will communicate regularly with host employer and organisation to ensure a positive experience. During these check-in's any issues or concerns that arise during the internship are dealt with. PCF will encourage feedback from both interns and employers to improve the program.

Alumnae

At the conclusion of the internship, all scholars are automatically enrolled into the PCF Alumnae program. PCF will maintain regular contact through EDM and social media and is a great opportunity for alumnae to keep in touch with advancements in their careers.



*Josephine Lagi
(Solomon Islands) at Ministry
of Business, Innovation &
Employment*

*Sina Aiolutepa-Aiono (Deputy
Chief Executive, Regional
Partnerships, Ministry for Pacific
Peoples) and Pauline Dokekana
(Solomon Islands)*



*Annajane Schutz (Kiribati)
at Auckland Council*

Testimonies

The following are testimonies of former host agencies and interns:



Leaupepe Rachel Karalus
Chief Executive Officer
K'aute Pasifika

“I am just writing to say how impressed we were..... and how much impact and value she brought to the organisation. She took every opportunity and frankly smashed it. We are really going to miss her....”



Jodi Watene
Manager Business Strategy & Planning Energy & Resource Markets
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

” ... had a great work ethic and she knew that she'd only get out of this opportunity what she was prepared to put into it. Keen to support this initiative in the future.”



Lisa Tai
Associate Director Risk Advisory
Deloitte

“Hardworking and always happy to take on the tasks allocated. was a lovely addition to our team during her internship.”



Alex Chisholm
Principal Structural Engineer
GHD

“She was friendly, polite and positive with a real can-do attitude to all the varied tasks that we gave her. She made good use of her time and was efficient in her work. Sela's internship was a great success for GHD. If the conditions are right, we would be glad to re-employ her.”



Florence Pauku
(Solomon Islands)

*2019 – 2020
PCF NZ Scholarship Intern,
Watercare Services Ltd*

“While at Watercare, I had the opportunity to work both in the office and off-site.”

“During the site visits, I was able to go to the Huia and Ardmere water treatment plants and to a waste management area in East Tamaki. The water treatment plant is where the water gets treated which then undergoes a number of processes before being supplied to be used.”

“The waste water tour on the other hand gave me a chance to see how the waste water in Auckland that comes from businesses and houses are environmentally safe before being disposed.”



Sokopeti Vite
(Tonga)

*2019 – 2020
PCF NZ Scholarship Intern,
Fonterra Research and
Development Centre*

“At home, my parents run this little kava business to generate more income for our family, and it made me think of how the resources we have in Tonga are efficiently utilised so that it can help sustain a family and community.”

“Whereas the internship has pulled me out of my comfort zone to be more practical and has enhanced my perspectives on the differences between a developed economy and a developing economy.”



Amanda Kora
(Papua New Guinea)

*2019 – 2020
PCF NZ Scholarship Intern,
Ministry of Business,
Innovation & Employment*

“My role as an intern involved providing compliance support work to the ERM Compliance Royalties Auditors.”

“The team that I worked with investigates and audits all businesses that have petroleum or mining permits or licenses to determine whether these businesses are dealing fairly and paying the appropriate taxes in the form of royalties to the government.”

“Highlights for me from this internship was gaining insight to compliance work in the petroleum and mining industry and the level of value this industry has in any country.”

Top Achieving Tongan Scholar Wins Prime Minister's International Scholar Award

The Prime Minister's Pacific Youth Awards is held annually. In 2019, Sela Maka, a former PCF NZ Scholarships intern from Tonga was awarded the Prime Minister's International Scholar Award. The proud Tongan-born scholar spent ten weeks at GHD, one of the world's leading engineering companies. Often referred to as 'Generation 6B's - Brown, Beautiful, Brainy, Bilingual, Bicultural and Bold' by Minister for Pacific Peoples Aupito Su'a William Sio, eleven Pacific youth were recognised for their exceptional contributions across eight categories.

"Each recipient is a symbol of the future I see for Pacific peoples in Aotearoa, a rising generation of Pacific people who are confident, thriving and resilient," says Minister Aupito William Sio.

"These young people are effecting positive change that is helping to shape New Zealand where Pacific people are prosperous and achieving wellbeing for their families."

PCF sponsored the International Scholar Award - acknowledging a young person from the Pacific region who is an active leader in both New Zealand and in their home country.

Having supported the awards in March 2018, PCF Chief Executive Don Mann says the selection process for this year was 'tough' as all candidates demonstrated passion and determination in their applications. However, on the night it was revealed that the winner was Sela Maka - one of New Zealand's top-achieving NZ Aid Pacific scholar who is studying engineering with Honours at Massey University.

Hailing from the village of Lotoha'apai Ha'ateiho in Tonga, Sela also grew up in Fiji where she spent most of her primary schooling years. Thanking the Ministry for Pacific Peoples and PCF for her award, Sela also dedicated the award to her family, friends and to her late father who inspired her love for STEM subjects.

"I like to acknowledge Ministry for Pacific Peoples for paving a way for our students from the Pacific to gain recognition outside of our homes," she said. "I'd like to thank Pacific Cooperation for sponsoring the award, I know so many of islanders sacrifice the comfort their own homes to face challenges different from what we've been raised in, and so I acknowledge them as well."

Sela hopes to become a chartered process engineer and will use her award to create an initiative focused on giving other engineering students an opportunity to work on development projects in Tonga.

Alex Chisholm, Principal Structural Engineer –Palmerston North Office Manager, GHD, expressed, "Sela's attitude throughout was fantastic. She was friendly, polite and positive with a real can-do attitude to all the varied tasks that we gave her. She made good use of her time and was efficient in her work. Sela's internship was a great success for GHD. If the conditions are right, we would be glad to re-employ her."



Rt Hon. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, Sela Maka, Minister for Pacific Peoples Hon. Aupito Su'a William Sio and PCF Board Trustee Mr Andrew Wilson



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