MBA summer internship
Employee Ownership + Micro Private Equity

This is a remote, unpaid, summer internship at Project Equity, a nonprofit organization focused on expanding employee ownership. Summer start and end dates, as well as hours per week, are flexible.

Project Equity’s Summer Internship Program is designed to provide practical, hands-on experience while developing relationships with students interested in working in the field of employee ownership. The internship program allows highly qualified talent to make connections outside of their university programs and engage in the exceptional, and not always common, work of Project Equity.

Each intern receives mentorship and hands-on training in their respective fields. We support interns in goal-setting and conduct weekly one-on-one check-ins to provide regular feedback and to facilitate learning. We hope to create lasting benefit for our Project Equity Interns and provide capacities to carry on this work beyond the academic setting.

Project Equity grows community wealth by retaining successful local businesses through employee ownership transitions

Project Equity is a nationwide nonprofit organization and leader in the employee ownership movement. Our mission is to foster economic resiliency with low-income communities by demonstrating and replicating strategies that increase employee ownership. We engage retiring owners on the benefits of a sale to their employees and provide technical assistance, financing and employee education for employee ownership conversions.

We help businesses convert to employee ownership through our Business Transition Program in three distinct phases: feasibility assessment; employee ownership design, preparation and transaction; and “Thrive,” our post-conversion support for new employee-owners, which emphasizes board and leadership development and individual asset building. We have advised over 800 businesses and provided hands-on technical assistance to over 100. Our typical clients are lower middle market businesses with 20–100 employees and <$2M EBITDA.
Help us tap incredible momentum

We are developing a new pipeline strategy to make employee ownership transitions feel more like an acquisition to the selling owner. This work is a proof of concept pilot for an expected $25-50M impact investing equity fund raise in 2024-25.

Internship overview

Project Equity is seeking internship candidates to work with our acquisitions team as we find and evaluate firms to transition to employee ownership.

Day to day activities include:
- Broker outreach
- Analysis of a given firm’s P&L, balance sheet, industry and investment potential
- Writing recommendations to the Investment Committee and collaboration with our Client Services team
- Managing written communications and IOI / LOI drafting
- Using Salesforce to track and evaluate success of our outbound communication strategies
- Participating in diligence activities

Successful internship candidates will

- Be a current MBA student
- Have prior experience in finance (PE, commercial banking, investment banking); any client-facing experience in the lower middle market will be valued
- Have worked with Salesforce or other CRM databases
- Have classwork or interest in entrepreneurship through acquisition (ETA)
- Be goal-oriented and able to stay focused on and successfully achieve milestones in a short period of time
- Have great people and communication skills
Compensation

This is an unpaid internship intended for students receiving graduate level college credit or fulfilling a degree requirement. Many of our interns are able to tap outside funding sources to replace their summer salary (e.g. through school programs that subsidize work with a nonprofit organization). If you are not a currently enrolled MBA student requiring a summer internship, or do not have access to a stipend from your institution, please contact us to explore other options.

Project Equity is an independent operating project of the nonprofit umbrella organization, Multiplier, a nationally recognized nonprofit with a growing portfolio of innovative initiatives that conserve and protect a sustainable and resilient world (www.multiplier.org)

Multiplier and Project Equity celebrate diversity and are committed to building teams and partnerships that represent a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. Multiplier and Project Equity are also committed to providing an environment of mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. Multiplier and Project Equity prohibit discrimination in its governance, programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, marital status, amnesty, status as a covered veteran, because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from public assistance, or for any other non-merit based factor.

To apply

Please upload a resume and cover letter to Project Equity here by JUNE 1, 2023. In your cover letter, please explain what motivates you to work with Project Equity, and how your experience, skills and commitment will advance our work to create a more equitable economy.

Learn more at project-equity.org.