

Internship Report - TNEDC - German Martinez Rojas

This summer I was offered the opportunity of interning with the state of Tennessee's Department of Economic and Community Development. The purpose of ECD is to bring foreign capital investment and industry into Tennessee. The goal of this task is to bolster the economic performance of the state by creating jobs and tax revenue. I was assigned to the Business development team, in charge of collecting and compiling data into presentations for the other sectors to utilize when connecting with companies and other government sectors. ECD provides incentives to companies seeking to complete a project in Tennessee in the form of grants. These grants provide tax deductions, economic grants for investment in training and infrastructure development. The first project I was given consisted of researching graduate business education programs at universities located throughout Tennessee. I was tasked with compiling the information from this research into an excel spreadsheet. This first project provided me with a preview for the majority of my duties, which included research and compiling data about companies in the manufacturing, food production, and technology sectors. I was also tasked with revising and correcting grant letters sent to industry executives seeking to expand their operations in Tennessee. During my internship I was also able to attend the 36-86 conference in downtown Nashville. Focused on Southern entrepreneurship and sponsored in part by the Department of Economic and Community Development, this conference gave me the opportunity to connect with many interesting business leaders in growing industries. My duties allowed me to develop analytical and research skills I'm confident will serve me well in my academic endeavors and beyond. I was also able to begin developing a professional network within an exciting sector of government and Tennessee's entrepreneur community.