



Kurtis Lunardi spent his summer internship at Fitzpatrick Chevrolet

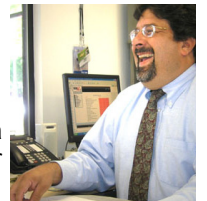
ROP Auto Interns Prepare for Their Future

"It's a great program. It gives value to the shop and it gives value to the interns."

—Service Manager

The service manager at Diablo Lincoln-Mercury, Darrell Cooper, is an enthusiastic supporter of the ROP summer internship program. "It's a great program," he says. "It gives value to the shop and it gives value to the intern. It's cost effective."

At Fitzpatrick Chevrolet, service manager Tom Mimiaga agrees. "I think it's a great idea to give kids some guidance and help them decide what they want to pursue in life. If you like cars and you know it at an early age, you can set the foundation to pursue your goals."



Tom Mimiaga
Service Manager

A Chance to Work in the Real World

How does internship experience compare to classroom learning? One major difference is the "real world" setting.

"It's fun," says Kurtis Lunardi, a senior at Alhambra High who interned at Fitzpatrick Chevrolet this summer. "It's an opportunity to learn about automotive technology in an actual job. I've never had a job before, so this is a good experience. It teaches you what a real job is, like the real world would be."

High school students in ROP-AYES Auto Tech classes get a chance to apply for summer jobs

with local dealers and auto shops, getting classroom credits as well as hard-earned cash in the summer internship program.

"This internship program is the most valuable thing I've done in 20 years of education," says Tim Bruder, ROP Auto Tech Instructor at Alhambra High.

"It's similar to coaching for me, seeing the students' success out in the real world. They find out that the things they learned in class are now useful in the world. It's not just grades they're working for, but they get money, and they can see that the harder they work, the better off they'll be."



Allen Woods
Concord BMW



Jesse Buckner
Hagin's Automotive

"It's the most valuable thing I've done in 20 years of education."

—ROP Instructor

Mentor Training for Internships

Dealers who choose to participate in the internship program get "mentor training" at a special day-and-a-half workshop. Both the technicians who will act as mentors and the prospective interns attend this workshop. Topics covered:

- A mentor's role in ensuring a successful internship experience
- How to work with young people
- Opportunity for students to learn about what the dealership will expect of them

- Work journal assignments
- Ideas and tips on getting along, anticipating and resolving potential problems
- Key factor in preparing for successful internships, ensuring that both students and mentors understand their roles and responsibilities during the internship period
- Opportunity for student and mentor to become acquainted without worksite pressures

Building on Technical Skills

Even though Allen Woods wants to eventually work on airplanes, he says his auto internship at Concord BMW is helpful to his future.

"It prepares me to see if this is what I want to do for the rest of my life, to see if I like being a technician," he says.

He likes working with his hands. He also likes working with his mentor, Doug Dellenbach. "I learn a lot from him. He shows me how to work on something, he teaches me—and then I do it myself."

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AYES—Automotive Youth Educational Systems ROP Auto Technology Internships



Felix Elizondo now works full-time for Concord BMW

Real Job

Often a summer internship leads to a full-time job after graduation. Felix Elizondo, last year's Association of California School Administrator's *Student of the Year*, now has a job at Concord BMW. "Having the internship helped me get this job," he says. "I proved I could do the work."

Prior to the AYES internship, Felix took ROP auto tech in high school. "If it weren't for the ROP class, I wouldn't be here right now," he says.

Felix is doing so well, BMW will send him to advanced technology training, and he'll have a job waiting for him when he comes back.

Mentors

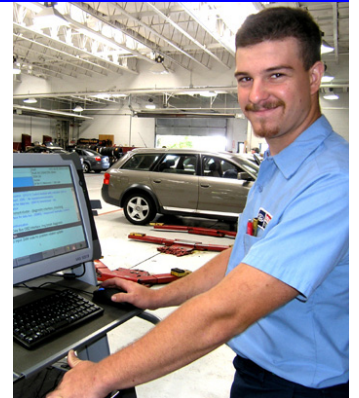
Each intern has a mentor to teach him the ways of the world of work, and how to do certain tasks.

"It's great to have a mentor," says Blake Bonner, whose mentor is



Blake Bonner and his mentor, Pon Soungpanya, at Walnut Creek Honda

*"It's great to have a mentor...
You really learn a lot more."
—ROP Intern*



Todd Fry at Diablo Lincoln-Mercury

Free Tool Kit

"It's good," says Todd Fry about his AYES internship at Diablo Lincoln-Mercury. "I get to see how an experienced technician works, how to use different equipment, and how to diagnose problems."

Todd is looking forward to taking his free tool kit with him when he leaves for advanced training. Students receive a sophisticated set of tools upon successful completion of their internship.

Todd is another graduate of Tim Bruder's ROP class at Alhambra High. He received a \$5,000 scholarship from the AYES program and will attend the Universal Technical Institute in Sacramento.

Congratulations, Todd!

Parents Like It Too

"I think it's wonderful," says Danette Bonner, "because it gives them an opportunity to test the waters of where they might want to go in their future." Danette's son, Blake, will be a senior this year. After his internship at Walnut Creek Honda, he hopes to get certified and get a job there after graduation.

*"He's a good student. I tell him to focus, pay attention, and ask questions."
—Mentor*

Pon Soungpanya at Walnut Creek Honda. "Pon and I get along like father and son. With individual instruction, you really learn a lot more. Plus, you get the experience of learning what a real shop is all about."

"Each week we work on something different," says Pon. "I used to be an ROP student. We didn't have internships back then, but I loved the class. That's why I like being a mentor now. It's give-back."



Chris Bloxsom
Concord BMW

Recommended

"I would recommend this program to a friend," says Chris Bloxsom, senior at Alhambra High. "It's fun. It's also valuable."

Chris especially likes working with his mentor, Mert Contapay, at Concord BMW. "He's cool. He knows a lot and he's really smart."

Chris plans on going through the BMW Step Program and hopes to attend Wyotech after graduation.

Participating Dealers

Many thanks to the following dealers and auto shops who participate in the AYES internship program for ROP Auto Tech students:

- ◆ Concord BMW
- ◆ Diablo Lincoln-Mercury
- ◆ Fitzpatrick Chevrolet
- ◆ Hagin's Automotive
- ◆ Lawrence Volvo
- ◆ Walnut Creek Honda

Win/Win

The ROP Auto Tech class with the AYES internship is a win/win situation for everybody. "The industry loves it because they can train their own technicians," says Tim Bruder, ROP Auto Technician Instructor.

"They like my screening process of recommending my best students, because it saves them a lot of headaches," he adds.

"It's a minimal investment for the dealers, and they'll get more out of it than they realize."

Auto Dealers and Shops —

If you're interested in helping high school students achieve their career goals through the ROP-AYES auto tech intern program —

Contact Sally Savage
ROP Principal
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