



# CANDIDATE OVERVIEW

Here's some Q&A's designed to give potential employers more of a feel for what SoT interns can do:

## 1. WHAT LEVEL ARE THE STUDENTS THAT ARE PART OF SUMMER OF TECH?

Summer of Tech candidates are primarily undergraduate students currently studying for a degree-level qualification at a Wellington tertiary institution. All currently-enrolled undergrads are eligible to register. You'll see students from 1st year through to 4th year listed in the talent pool.

Some companies are using a summer internship as a test-drive for a permanent position. If this is you, make sure you confirm students are in their final year of study. Degree programmes are 3 or 4 years long, so the only way to confirm this is to ask the candidates directly (if you want them to be available full-time, make sure they're not planning to do Honours or Masters courses next year!)

Many technology degrees require students to complete relevant work experience during their degree. For this reason, you'll see 2nd and 3rd year students registered for Summer of Tech. We encourage 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students to take part - Summer of Tech is a great way to increase skills and confidence in presenting yourself to potential employers. Some of our stand-out interns have been 1st and 2nd year students, so don't discount their skills & talents, just because they're not graduating this year!

You'll also find some post-grad and recently-graduated students in the pool. Again, these are great candidates and might be a match for your needs. If you are applying for TechNZ funding, please be aware that students who are not currently enrolled in an undergraduate paper may not be eligible for funding support.

## 2. WHERE ARE THEY STUDYING?

Summer of Tech works pro-actively with students enrolled in tertiary institutions in the Wellington region (Victoria & Massey Universities, WelTec, Whitireia and Natcoll). However, students enrolled in other NZ tertiaries are eligible to register. In particular, Massey Palmerston North and Otago University students seem keen on spending summer working in Wellington. We encourage them to be in Wellington for the Meet & Greet and Interview dates.

### 3. WHAT ARE THEY STUDYING?

You will see students' degree programme listed on their profile, and a summary of complete courses & grades in their Academic Record. Here's a summary of the typical SoT candidate degrees:

**CODE** - Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Information Systems, Business Information Systems

**ENGINEERING** - Software, Hardware, Computer, Mechanical, Electronic, Mechatronics, Civil, Product Design, Industrial Design

**DESIGN** - Visual Communication Design, Digital Media, Industrial Design, Design, Product Design, Spatial Design

**BUSINESS ANALYSIS** - Information Systems, Business Information Systems, Information Technology, Computer Science

### 4. WHAT PROJECTS OR ROLES CAN SOT INTERNS UNDERTAKE THIS SUMMER?

This list is not prescriptive; you'll find most Candidates keen to give most things (degree-related, of course) a go! Please talk to the SoT team if you'd like more guidance on appropriate projects.

**CODE** - Software development, programming, Web /API development, iPhone Apps, Documentation, Testing...

**ENGINEERING** - CAD-CAM, product development, systems design, process / software / network / hardware engineering, clean technology, water & waste, civil engineering projects...

**DESIGN** - Web design, digital media, interaction design, user-testing, 3D animation, game development, 2D design, graphic design...

**BUSINESS ANALYSIS** - requirements, analysis, documentation, testing, information architecture...

### 5. WHAT KIND OF CAREER ARE THEY LOOKING FOR, BEYOND SUMMER?

We've been keeping track of Summer of Code "alumni" over the past 5 years. Their careers are broad and impressive. Some have started their own IT companies, some work in the public sector. Many are still employed by companies that hosted their internship! Here's some example career paths that SoT candidates are seeking:

**CODE** - software developer, programmer, web developer, IT contractor, IT Project Manager, Entrepreneur...

**ENGINEERING** – computer/ software/ network/ mechanical/ civil engineer. Consultant engineer, product developer, process engineer, CAD/CAM, CNC operator, Entrepreneur...

**DESIGN** - web designer, UX specialist, interaction designer, animator, digital media specialist, industrial designer, freelance designer, games developer, Entrepreneur...

**BUSINESS ANALYSIS** – IT BA, DBA, Production Support, IT Project Manager, IT Project Administrator, Solutions Architect, Test Analyst, Information Systems specialist, Entrepreneur...