

MSBO Business Office Internship Program

Michigan School Business Officials and its members recognize the demands of the school business official (SBO) profession require strong succession planning and recruiting new workers into the profession. In addition, recent job market dynamics have underscored the difficulty in filling positions and the need to have several sources of new entries into the SBO job market. A key part of building a pipeline for new talent is promotion of the profession to a younger generation and providing opportunities for them to gain real-life experience. Therefore, we are hoping to work with college students who are interested in the field of accounting in order to give them some valuable experience learning how Michigan School Finance works.

Goals for the students:

- Gain valuable experience in school district and fund accounting.
- Learn how the Michigan Public School Accounting Chart of Accounts works.
- Exposure to MSBO, establishing networking contacts within the school business profession.
- Learn the calendar of school business and the variety of required state and federal financial reports.
- Learn the day-to-day operations of a school business office.
- Learn the school district's finance software system. There are many ERP programs throughout the state (e.g., SDS, Munis, Skyward, etc.). Certain placements may even provide exposure to multiple systems.
- Gain appreciation and understanding for school finance as a career path.
- Fulfill internship requirements and/or recommendations of respective program of study.

Goals for Districts:

- Grow and develop the next generation of school business officials.
- Develop a pipeline of potential new hires into the school finance industry. This will become more important as current employees are lost through retirements and resignations.
- Make use of interns and other temporary staff to assist business offices trying to implement new technology and new processes into their workflow.
- Grow and develop a network of business officials throughout the state to foster collaboration on future projects. As different ISDs and regions can connect on these initiatives, we grow our network of colleagues we have experience with and trust with collaboration.
- Partner with colleges and universities in key areas, including guest lectures, job fair participation, and other activities where MSBO and members can represent the field of school finance.