

From California to New York

Career Quest New York provided me with a myriad of new experiences and resources. A California resident, I had never traveled to the Big Apple. A program like Career Quest was exactly what I had hoped my undergraduate studies would have provided, but my school didn't have any opportunities like this one. New York is very ideal for me, because I like fast-paced environments where there is opportunity for growth. This couldn't more accurately describe New York's culture. Every site we visited had presentations by younger people who told their story about working their way up to higher positions. Each presenter also shared about lateral movement within the company which is very important to me to be able to try a different type of position in the future. Time and Google, in particular, mentioned staff development opportunities such as training sessions for employees interested in learning about new avenues. This is something that I have found, so far, to be difficult to find with employers. Many of the companies I have worked for in the past were smaller companies with no advancement or development opportunities, and with no encouragement to advance.

Career Quest was a great opportunity to not only network with the businesses we went to visit, which was very valuable, but also with each other. It was valuable to have time to be able to talk as a group and on an individual level as we traveled from site to site. Learning about each other, and what each of us would like to do was a great form of networking. It proved how effective all kinds of networking can be. For me, networking does not always come easily or comfortably. I can talk easily with people one on one, but being in a group environment was a good growth and learning opportunity for me to use in the future with my present and future career.