Public Works-Bureau of Engineering and Construction
High School Engineering Internship Program

“The Oakland public works engineering program was my first experience in a professional work environment and gave me a very solid idea of what civil engineering is really like.”

“I feel that the goal of professional experience was fully met, in that the interns were exposed to a professional office environment with behavioral and dress code expectations. I think that this is something that not many students are able to understand at our age, and it is important to know how to meet these expectations in the future when getting a job.”

“I learned of the fundamental skills required to be an engineer, including teamwork, detail oriented, possessing effective communication skills and learning from one’s mistakes.”

“One of the biggest things that made me appreciate the work in public works was the Disabilities Act that causes things in the right of way to all be handicap accessible.”

“This program has not really taught me much in terms of what it takes to be successful but it allowed me to witness firsthand what it takes to be successful. Besides a background in math in science, everyone had always told me that to be a good writer will always help in the engineering field and I never really understood how until now.”

“...I’m drawn to civil engineering as a career because I get to be creative and I get to help the community as a whole.”

“...in engineering class we usually work by ourselves, in Public Works people usually work together on a single project, even if they are working individually on some parts. I like that part of it; it makes the project feel more complete knowing that so many people put their efforts into it together.”