

SUMMERWORKS SUCCESS: SEAN G.

WORKSYSTEMS: COMMUNICATIONS INTERN



"Not only am I the creative director of a pretty large storytelling project, but I am also surrounded by so many people that want me to succeed."
Sean G.

Before learning about SummerWorks, I had applied for 42 jobs within a month and heard very little from any of them. Before that, I had mostly worked in fast food but was trying desperately to move into something more fulfilling.

One day on the MAX, while complaining to my mother about not having any luck with the job search, a kind person overheard me and told us all about their experience with SummerWorks. It felt like a cosmic moment of serendipity, and I applied online as soon as I got home.

At first, I was a bit skeptical—it just seemed too good to be true. Compared to the rest of my experience with the workforce, it felt too easy. My Career Coach at IRCO gave me a website with 20 or so job placements to choose my top five from. I found a lot more that I liked, but the one I was placed at was definitely my favorite.

I've always been a creative, possibly over-communicative person, so I was absolutely stoked to hear I would be assisting in communications and marketing at a nonprofit. I had never been in an office environment or

worked at an organization this large, so I expected an avalanche of challenges from the start. Yes, they came eventually, but with I knew that no matter what was thrown my way I could always talk to my Career Coach and supervisor, and adjustments could be made. With such security present, I have been able to push myself and triumph much more than I originally thought.

I have been given so much freedom at this worksite. Without SummerWorks, I couldn't even imagine creating this many useful connections. I genuinely feel like I could do anything I set my mind to, given the right resources. I could not be more grateful for the experience this program has granted me.



Photos by Sean Bascom



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