

Austmine STEM METS Career Pathway Program

Post Program Interview



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What drew you towards applying for the Austmine STEM program? Why did you apply for the specific internship you were placed in?

During my second year of university, I decided that I wanted to spend my summer break interning as a software engineer to gain some industry experience. After searching and applying to various places, I came across the Austmine STEM program. After reading about the experience of the last set of interns had, as well as watching the webinars, I decided that I would like to participate in the program. I thought that learning about a new industry and working with new technologies would mean I would get the most out of an internship. I was drawn to the IMDEX internship due to the technologies they used, and the fact that they are one of the largest companies in Western Australia.

Do you see yourself having a career in this sector? Has your view towards the sector changed since your internship?

I had next to no information about the mining sector going into the internship. The place I worked for, IMDEX, gave the interns many talks and presentations about the processes, technologies, and opportunities that exist within the mining industry. It definitely changed my perspective on the industry, and I could see myself working there in the future. The amazing community and workplace culture at IMDEX was also a key factor in changing my perspective on the industry.

What key skills have you learnt through your internship that you feel are transferrable for future roles?

There are too many to list! Agile project management, version control, teamwork, presentation skills, design skills, document writing, meeting organisation, communication skills, using Outlook, just to name a few. As a software developer I also learnt a lot about HTML, JavaScript, TypeScript, CSS and the Angular framework.

What task or experience was particularly memorable as part of your internship?

Within the first few weeks of my internship, myself and three other interns were tasked with creating a business case which showcased a solution to a particular problem with the existing software. After weeks of preparation, we presented our business case in front of our bosses and colleagues and had the business case approved. It was a really memorable experience and unlike anything any of us had done before.

What was the biggest challenge you faced during your internship and how did you overcome this?

Using technologies and tools I was completely unfamiliar with. I overcame this by spending time learning the technologies through research and videos, as well as asking the other developers how they learnt the technologies. The developers were supportive and gave some great advice on how to learn all the technologies they used.

Would you recommend the Austmine STEM program to future students?

Absolutely! I met some amazing people, learnt a large amount of life skills, and got to work in a really nice office. I would recommend the Austmine STEM program to anyone who is eligible; it's an experience I will not forget any time soon.

Do you have any further comments you would like to make about the Austmine STEM program?

The Austmine STEM program was an amazing experience that I would recommend to everybody. I would also like to extend my sincerest thanks to Daniel, who was my manager at IMDEX. His support and guidance made the experience so much more enjoyable. Thanks again, Dan.



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