



## Google – ACCAN Internship 2016

### Overview

Google and ACCAN in partnership are offering a paid internship to commence in April-May 2016 on a project addressing a consumer technology issue. Candidates resident in Australia and attending, or recently graduated from, an Australian university are welcome to apply.

### Eligibility

The internship is available for undergraduate (final year) students, postgraduate students and recent graduates of law, business, engineering, sociology, computer science or other related discipline. Candidates must be Australian citizens or have Australian residency. Internships are open to women and men. The ACCAN workplace is culturally diverse and actively ensures people with disability can participate effectively.

### Selection Criteria

The preferred application will be one that is of the highest quality and demonstrates the clearest grasp of analytical processes, research techniques and methods. Academic record will be taken into account.

### Selection Process

Applications are open between 22 April and 20 May 2016. Applications must be on the form provided and will include the applicant's name, curriculum vitae, qualifications, residency/citizenship status, contact details, two referees, and a 1-page summary of a project proposal drawn from the outlines below, or other topics related to contemporary communications issues. Applications will be submitted by email to: [recruitment@accan.org.au](mailto:recruitment@accan.org.au) by the closing date.

After the closing date, a joint selection committee comprising Google and ACCAN staff will meet to review the applications and agree the preferred applicant. Interviews may be conducted for shortlisted applicants only. An offer will be made to the intern by ACCAN. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email.

### Time Frame

The internship will run between April and August for a period of 10 weeks on a 37.5hr week or equivalent part-time. Flexible arrangements will be entered into depending on the project and the applicant's need.

### Project Outputs

Project outputs will be published on the ACCAN website under a creative commons license and may take the form of a research report, review, software tool or other form.

### Accommodation, Costs etc

ACCAN will provide office accommodation from which the intern will undertake the bulk of his/her work. Any costs associated with the project other than the stipend will be borne by ACCAN and must receive prior authorisation. The intern will be employed by ACCAN under the SCHADS Award at Level 2 Paypoint 1.

*Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN)  
Australia's peak telecommunications consumer advocacy organisation*

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## Termination

Internships may be terminated should ACCAN or Google consider the Intern has engaged in misconduct. The Intern may also request to terminate the agreement without cause. Payment will cease at the time of termination.

## Project Proposals

ACCAN and Google invite applicants to submit a brief proposal outlining a project from the areas below or an emerging communications consumer issue. Projects may be refined at the commencement of the project, once an applicant is awarded. Projects may differ once commenced due to a range of reasons subject to determination by the ACCAN supervisor. Projects are in no order of priority.

**Empowering consumers to use their data (open data):** This project would identify a publicly available (or personally available) data set which could be used by consumers to make better purchasing decisions or inform public debate in the area of telecommunications. The project would include designing and building a simple application to help interpret this data for consumer use. For example, this project might create a tool for analysing consumer mobile usage patterns to help pick an appropriate plan or help consumers with limited choice in regional areas find the best telecommunications service provider.

**Smart Cities: Planning for Success.** From driverless cars to augmented reality city guides, there are a range of potential benefits arising from the concept of 'Smart Cities'. What sorts of consumer protection mechanisms need to be in place as more and more data is created, stored and shared? What sorts of regulatory mechanisms are being considered? What systems and protections might be useful in the creation of services and systems for 'Smart Cities'? How should cities plan for future 'smartness'? This project would review the current state of smart cities by plotting potential scenarios and reviewing regulatory and planning responses.

**Consumer impact of big data:** many organisations talk about the use of data to make better business decisions, but how prevalent is it? From London city garbage cans tracking wi-fi devices to web site cookie correlation, what systems are available for the large scale compilation of consumer data from telecommunications enabled devices and how widespread are they in Australia today? What can and should consumers do to take back control of their personal data?

**Digital government and consumers:** Governments around the developed world are pursuing digital transformation, including that of consumer-facing services like welfare, identity documentation and health. The project would consider what governments around the world have already done (e.g. New Zealand and the UK), assess what has worked, and seek to provide a template for best practice in the design and implementation of digital government services for consumers.

**Digital assistants for consumers – Online commerce:** In the 21st century consumers are presented with a vast array of choices online. This project would consider how can the next generation of personal digital tools can best help consumers navigate the online world and make good choices? The student will seek to identify the biggest information problems facing consumers shopping online and the ways that personalised assistance could help consumers overcome them, including consideration of accessibility issues faced by the differently abled.

**Topic of the Intern's Choosing.** Students may propose their own topic in technology and consumer matters and similarly should submit as a proposal.

**PROCEED TO THE APPLICATION FORM OVERLEAF**

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<b>Applicant Name:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Are you:</b> currently enrolled <input type="checkbox"/> expect to graduate Year 20__ OR recently graduated <input type="checkbox"/> Year _____	
Course name: _____	
Course major: _____	
University: _____	
<b>Are you an Australian resident or citizen:</b> yes / no	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Referee 1</b> (Personal / Employment) Name, contact details	
<b>Referee 2</b> (Academic) Name, contact details	

Submit by email to [recruitment@accan.org.au](mailto:recruitment@accan.org.au) or  
 fax: 02-9288-4019 with your project proposal overleaf.  
 Attach your curriculum vitae as a separate file in MS Word,  
 PDF, ODF, html or plain text format.

Closing date: **20 May 2016**

PROCEED TO THE PROPOSAL FORM OVERLEAF

# Project Proposal

<b>Project Title:</b>
<b>Project Aim:</b> <i>[Describe the aim of your project]</i>
<b>Project Method:</b> <i>[Describe the method you will use in your project]</i>
<b>Project Output/s:</b> <i>[What outputs will this project produce? Eg report, web site, software tool, mobile app. Describe it/them.]</i>