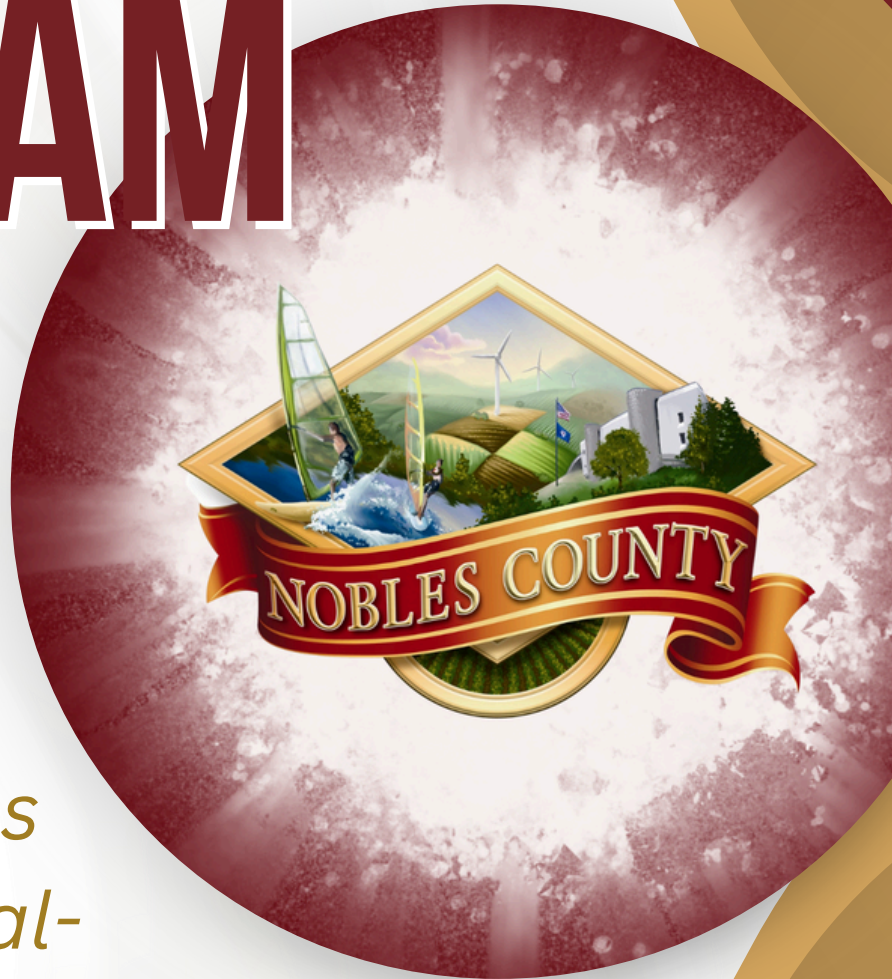


Nobles County INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2025

*Building the future
workforce in Nobles
County through real-
world experiences*



 SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA
PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

HISTORY OF PROGRAM



The Nobles County Internship Program was inspired by a successful initiative in neighboring Martin County. Former Nobles County Commissioner Don Linssen attended a meeting where he learned about Martin County's efforts to connect students with local employers through internships. Recognizing the potential of such a program, Linssen brought the idea to Nobles County Administrator Bruce Heitkamp, remarking that "Martin County is on to something good."

Heitkamp reintroduced the concept locally, and in 2023, Nobles County partnered with the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council (PIC) to officially launch its own internship program. That summer, 15 college students from Nobles County, both traditional and non-traditional, gained hands-on experience by interning with local businesses. Participants could earn up to \$17 an hour and work up to 29 hours per week.

Following the program's successful first year, the Nobles County Commissioners voted to continue it into 2024. Once again, 15 interns participated, further strengthening the connection between local talent and local employers.



NOBLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Justin Ahlers
District 1



Gene Metz
District 2



Bob Paplow
District 3



Robert Demuth, Jr.
District 4



Chris Dybevick
District 5



THE INTERNS

Brock

Worthington Area YMCA

Ivania

*Prairie Rehabilitation and
Fitness*

Isabel

The Daily Globe

Ana

Nobles County Attorney's Office

Lance

*Worthington Tax & Business
Services*

Jose

Henning Electric

Anaka

Creative Healing Space

Taylor

Minnesota West

Yaquelinne

*Nobles County Community
Services
- Public Health*

Hiltyn

Sanford Rehabilitation

Jocelyn

Memorial Auditorium

Jonathan

Forward Worthington

Jose

Bedford Industries

Owen

*Hayenga-Johnson Historical
Society*

Taya

Forward Worthington



NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



BROCK

*Communication Major,
Digital Media Minor
SMSU – Marshall, MN*



WORTHINGTON AREA YMCA

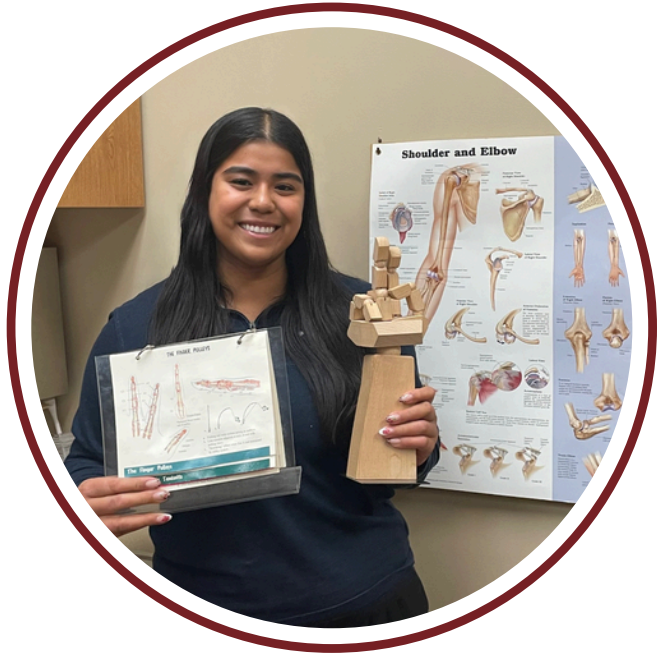
Worthington, MN

The Worthington Area YMCA provides community-focused sports and fitness programs that promote healthy living and active lifestyles. The Sports Coordinator helps lead these efforts by managing athletic leagues and camps, fostering youth development and community engagement.

Brock launched the YMCA's first-ever 3v3 basketball league, bringing a new recreational opportunity to the community and showcasing his leadership and initiative.

Brock is passionate about athletics and is exploring career options across youth, high school, and college sports. His internship has given him hands-on experience managing eight sports camps and two athletic leagues, helping build skills in event coordination and athletic operations.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



IVANIA

*Biology & History Double Major
(pre-occupational therapy)
Gustavus Adolphus College*

PRAIRIE REHABILITATION & FITNESS

Worthington, MN

Prairie Rehabilitation & Fitness offers personalized physical and occupational therapy services for outpatient clients in Worthington, MN. Their team of therapists helps individuals recover mobility and improve quality of life through customized care plans.

Ivania's internship has provided her with hands-on experience in the field of occupational therapy. The opportunity to interact with patients and witness their progress has been significant, reinforcing her passion and motivation to become an Occupational Therapist.



NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



ISABEL

*Marketing & Journalism/
Mass Communications
Double Major*
University of Iowa

The Globe

THE DAILY GLOBE

Worthington, MN

The Daily Globe is a regional newspaper serving Worthington and surrounding communities. With a focus on local journalism, the paper keeps residents informed through comprehensive news coverage and advertising. The Globe regularly hires journalists who are passionate about community storytelling.

“We’ve enjoyed having Isabel on our editorial team. She brings ideas, enthusiasm, and a willingness to learn. She’s been a great match for our newsroom.”

-Julie Buntjer, Editor

Isabel’s internship has given her valuable exposure to the journalism industry, helping her build real-world reporting skills and newsroom experience. She hopes to work in print or broadcast journalism as a reporter or producer after graduation.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



ANA

Business Law Major, Political
Science Minor
University of Nebraska



NOBLES COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Worthington, MN

Located in the Prairie Justice Center, the Nobles County Attorney's Office serves as the primary prosecutorial authority for the county. The team handles criminal cases, supports courtroom procedures, prepares legal documents, and ensures justice is carried out in the community.

Ana is a pre-law student focused on preparing for a future in the legal field. Her internship has provided hands-on experience with the daily operations of a county attorney's office, including observing legal proceedings, assisting with case preparation, and gaining insight into courtroom administration. The experience is strengthening her knowledge of legal systems and helping shape her future career path.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



LANCE

Accounting & Agribusiness
Major
North Dakota State University

WORTHINGTON TAX & BUSINESS SERVICES

Worthington, MN

Worthington Tax and Business Services offers expert tax preparation and accounting support for both individuals and businesses. With a focus on accuracy and personal service, their experienced team provides dependable financial solutions to meet a wide range of client needs.



Lance's internship has allowed him to apply his studies in a real-world setting, gaining insight into the day-to-day work of accounting professionals. The experience has helped him build practical skills, explore career options, and gain confidence as he considers his future in accounting or agribusiness.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



JOSE

Electrical Program
*Minnesota West
Community & Technical
College - Jackson*



HENNING ELECTRIC LLC

Rushmore, MN

Henning Electric LLC provides residential electrical services, including service calls, remodels, and upgrades to outlets, switches, and lighting fixtures. The company also handles wire preparation for various installations and values hands-on experience in its interns, apprentices, and skilled electricians.

Jose is pursuing his goal of becoming a licensed electrician through both classroom learning and real-world experience. His internship has helped him build technical skills, gain confidence, and better understand the daily responsibilities of an electrician. The experience has confirmed his passion for the field and prepared him for a future career in the electrical trade.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



ANAKA

Fine Arts Major
Northwestern College



CREATIVE HEALING SPACE

Worthington, MN

Creative Healing Space is a nonprofit that supports mental health through the power of art. They host inclusive, community-wide events featuring weekly creative activities that promote healing, self-expression, and connection.

"Anaka has been amazing during our busy summer season—helping with design, social media, and event planning. She's stepping into leadership and exploring new paths like art therapy. Big thanks to the county commissioners and the PIC for supporting our mission."

- Suree, Creative Healing Space

Anaka is a fine arts student with dreams of selling her own artwork, exploring freelance projects, and possibly teaching art. Her internship has helped her grow not only artistically, but also in leadership, event planning, and social media skills. She's also been introduced to the field of art therapy—an area she's now eager to learn more about.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



TAYLOR

Masters of Business
Administration (MBA)
*Southwest Minnesota State
University*



MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Worthington, MN

Minnesota West provides a range of academic and career programs that prepare students for direct employment or transfer to four-year colleges. Positions include instructors, business services staff, and student support roles across five campuses.

“Taylor has been an incredible fit for our team. Her perspective as a recent student and her willingness to learn have made this experience positive for both sides. We’d absolutely host an intern again with the right match.”

— Katie Heronimus, Minnesota West

Taylor’s internship has offered valuable insight into the world of higher education. She’s gained hands-on experience in multiple departments including business services, marketing, and human resources. As an MBA student, Taylor is developing the knowledge and skills she hopes to use in future leadership roles in education or beyond.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



NOBLES COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES - *PUBLIC HEALTH*

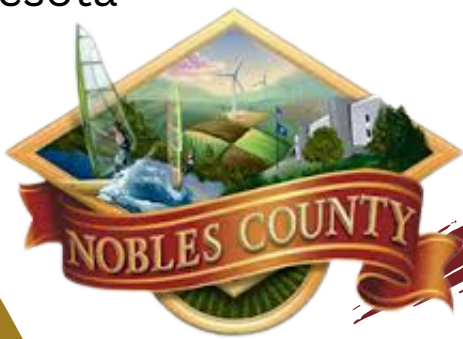
Rushmore, MN

Located in the Government Center in Worthington, the Public Health Department serves the community through family home visits, child and teen checkups, immunizations, and more. They hire for roles such as public health nurses, community health workers, and social workers.

YAQUELINNE

*Bachelor of Science in
Nursing (BSN)*

Saint Mary's University of
Minnesota



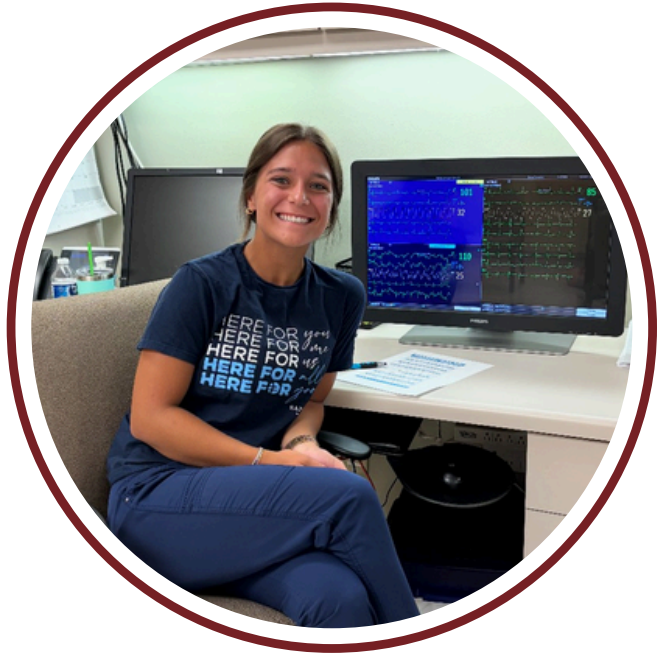
*"It's so awesome to be able to
provide resources to my
community, and seeing families
grow makes working in Public
Health so rewarding!"*

- Yaquelinne

"Jackie is doing a terrific job integrating with our home visiting staff and really enjoys working with families. We'd definitely welcome future interns. It's been a great experience for all of us!"

- Stacie Golombiecki, Community Services Director

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



HILTYN

Exercise Science
South Dakota State
University

SANFORD CARDIAC REHAB

Worthington, MN

The Sanford Worthington Cardiac Rehabilitation Center helps patients recover from heart-related conditions through supervised exercise, education, and lifestyle support. This essential healthcare facility offers a structured, supportive environment for patients rebuilding strength and improving heart health. Nursing roles are among the most common positions available.

Hiltyn's internship has given her the opportunity to work hands-on with patients, deepen her understanding of cardiac events, and assist in creating individualized exercise programs. These experiences have strengthened her confidence in a clinical setting and helped bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world application. While she's still exploring her long-term career path, this internship has been a valuable step in her professional journey.

SANFORD
HEALTH

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Worthington, MN

The Memorial Auditorium Performing Arts Center is a cornerstone of the Worthington arts community. The venue offers music, theater, dance, and cultural programming while also hosting artist residencies. With a dedicated team overseeing events and operations, the auditorium continues to connect the community to the arts in a professional and welcoming space.

JOCELYN

*Dance & Communications
Major | Arts Entrepreneurship
& Theatre Minor*
Gustavus Adolphus College



Jocelyn's internship has given her firsthand experience in nonprofit arts management, including grant writing, event planning, and building strong communication skills. She is especially grateful for the chance to learn from experienced professionals and further explore her passion for the performing arts. While she's still shaping her career path, Jocelyn hopes to continue working in the nonprofit arts sector, keeping the arts at the center of her future.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



JONATHAN

Business & Marketing
Hamline University



FORWARD WORTHINGTON

Worthington, MN

Forward Worthington, located at the JBS Fieldhouse, supports both individuals and local businesses by offering resources, guidance, and community connections. Their mission is to help the community grow stronger and more successful, with career opportunities in community outreach, administrative support, and program coordination.

“Jonathan has been respectful, hardworking, and outgoing. He’s helped ease our workload and accomplished each task in a timely manner. If we could keep him forever, we would!”

– Jamie Salinas, Forward Worthington

Jonathan’s internship at Forward Worthington gave him valuable insight into his future career path before fully focusing on it in college. He enjoyed working with a variety of people, taking on different tasks, and experiencing firsthand how the organization supports the community.

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



JOSE

Electrical Program
Minnesota West Community
and Technical College

BEDFORD INDUSTRIES

Worthington, MN

Bedford, a trusted plastic fabrication company in Worthington, is recognized for producing high-quality products that serve a diverse range of industries. With a focus on innovation and precision, Bedford provides opportunities for individuals interested in hands-on production and manufacturing careers.

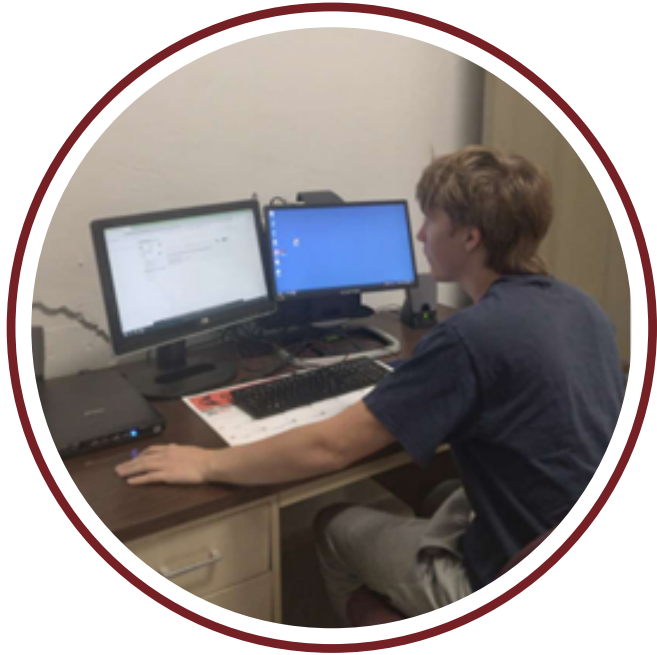
“The internship is like a real-world job; I can prepare for next semester as there are similarities to what I'm going to do next fall.”

- Jose Chavez



BEDFORD®
INDUSTRIES

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



OWEN

*Business Major/History
Minor*

University of South Dakota

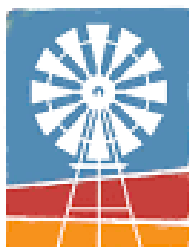
NOBLES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Worthington, MN

The Nobles County Historical Society, located in the old armory in Worthington, works to preserve and share historically significant objects and stories from Nobles County.

Volunteer roles often include archiving, research, event support, and community outreach.

Owen's internship has given him valuable real-world experience, allowing him to develop practical, hands-on skills that will benefit him in any career path he chooses. While his long-term plans are still taking shape, he appreciates how the opportunity has helped him grow professionally and personally.



NOBLES COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOBLES COUNTY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



FORWARD WORTHINGTON

Worthington, MN

Forward Worthington, located at the JBS Fieldhouse, supports both individuals and local businesses by offering resources, guidance, and community connections. Their mission is to help the community grow stronger and more successful, with career opportunities in community outreach, administrative support, and program coordination.

TAYA

Business Management
Southwest Minnesota State University



“Taya has been respectful, hardworking, and outgoing. She’s helped ease our workload and accomplished every task in a timely manner. If we could keep her forever, we would!”

– Jamie Salinas, Forward Worthington

“I’ve really enjoyed this internship. It’s been a really good experience, and I’ve learned a lot along the way. I would for sure do something like this again. I’m super thankful for the chance to be part of it—it’s helped me grow and made me even more excited for what’s ahead.”

– Taya Elias

THE BANQUET



On July 30, 2025, interns, host site representatives, Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council staff, and Nobles County Commissioners gathered to celebrate the conclusion of the first year of the Swift County Summer Internship Program. It was a meaningful opportunity to reflect on a summer of growth, connection, and career exploration.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the celebration, and best of luck to our interns as they return to their universities for the upcoming academic year!

