



CENTER FOR  
THE ADVANCED  
STUDY OF INDIA

**CASI**  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## LEAP Skills Academy

### Education & Social Entrepreneurship

#### **CASI-LEAP Internship**

The CASI-LEAP partnership offers a competitive volunteer internship to current Penn students who are eager to take a hands-on approach to international development. An internship with LEAP Skills Academy will provide Penn students an opportunity to effectively contribute to the critical skill development space in India. During the internship, Penn students will interact with motivated students and engage with education partners. The internship will provide a first-hand understanding of the stakeholders that comprise the skill development landscape in non-metro regions in India. LEAP Skills Academy is a young organization looking for Penn students who are interested in the business or education sector and are ready to join a start up team for the summer.

#### **Internship Details**

- 10 week internship from May 2020-August 2020
- CASI will provide up to four (4) Penn students approximately \$4,000 each to cover travel to and within India, affordable housing, and living expenses
- Funds are made possible through the support of Penn's Office of the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives and in conjunction with Penn Abroad and Penn's Global Research and Internship Program (GRIP)

#### **Accommodation and Food**

Penn students will have access to affordable home-cooked Indian meals and bottled water at nominal costs to them. Accommodation options available include hotels & paying-guest rooms.

## About CASI

CASI is an academic research center located within Penn's School of Arts & Sciences. Founded in 1992, CASI is recognized as a national resource and the first research institution in the US dedicated to the study of contemporary India. For questions on CASI Student Programs contact Laura Iwanyk: [liwanyk@upenn.edu](mailto:liwanyk@upenn.edu)

**Learn more:** [casi.sas.upenn.edu](http://casi.sas.upenn.edu) | **Student Blog:** [casistudentprograms.com](http://casistudentprograms.com) |   @CASIPenn



*"At the end of the internship, we were asked to speak in front of the LEAP team about our experience. I've never been one for off-the-cuff public speaking, but I soon found myself candidly discussing the whole summer--the living adjustments, how worried I was about working on a learning management system with no tech/coding experience, how appreciative I was of the kindness of all the trainers, and the laughs we all shared. When I finished, I realized I was not the same person as at the start of the summer. I never would have had the courage to express myself so openly and freely in front of a crowd of people I cared so much about. Just like Leap works to inspire confidence in their students, in that moment I realized they had done the same for me."*

*- Jacob Berexa C'18*

# About LEAP

## LEAP Skills Academy

LEAP Skills Academy is a skill development organization headquartered in New Delhi founded in April 2013. LEAP, which stands for Learning, Employability and Progress, aims to impart skills that are essential to an individual's career growth and development, through high quality course content delivered via innovative and interactive learning methods. LEAP's strong commitment to excellence, inclusive growth and uncompromising integrity is backed by experiential learning and project-based learning methodologies, which ensure that trainees learn how to implement the skills learned. They also integrate technology to make access to skills training and education more affordable and widely available, allowing students from smaller towns and cities to aspire towards better careers. Over the course of five years LEAP has expanded operations across major cities in India, working with over fifteen major institutions across different levels of education including high schools, diploma schools, undergraduate colleges, management schools and engineering institutions. LEAP has trained over 3,000 trainees, mentored nearly 15,000 college students, and delivered over 5,000 hours of training. LEAP has also provided employment to more than 500 college students across 75+ renowned local and global employers including IBM, SAP, Accenture, BT Group & GENPACT. For more information on LEAP Skills Academy: <http://leapskills.in/>

## New Delhi, Delhi

New Delhi serves as the capital of India. It is the largest commercial city in Northern India. It is also considered a cosmopolitan city because of the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural presence of the Indian political system. New Delhi is home to several historical sites and museums including: The National Museum, The India Gate, The Rajpath, Lodi Gardens, and The Lotus Temple. New Delhi is also home to India's oldest metro system, which has grown to be the twelfth largest metro system in the world in terms of length.

## Potential CASI Projects

- Implement a learning management system (similar to Canvas or Blackboard); research blended learning methodology.
- Collect feedback and implement best practices to ensure the learning management system has a quality user experience, adds value and meets the learning outcomes.
- Lead summer workshops with students to help them build communication and career readiness skills; Mentor students and help them select careers which are aligned with their passions and strengths.
- Conduct surveys on student career aspirations and decisions based on skill development opportunities.
- Determine the market viability for different education products and map student needs.
- Design content for in-class and online learning modules, delivered through the LMS and dedicated educational apps.
- Create a mentorship program to increase alumni and corporate partner involvement

## CASI Resources and Application Details

- **CASI Open House:** December 9, 2019, time TBD, at CASI, 133 South 36th Street, Suite 230
- **Attend a "Chai Chat"** on Thursdays from 3:00-4:00pm to speak with one of our past students
- **Applications** close on January 20, 2020