Index of Organisations: Public Sector

British Army
Government Statistical Service - Office for National Statistics
Greater London Authority
Housing and Development Board Singapore
Met Office
Ministry of Health Singapore
Office of Rail and Road (The)
DAE

Name of organisation	British Army
What does the organisation do?	Defends the United Kingdom.
Where were you located?	Longmoor Camp, then RAF St. Mawgan
What did you do?	One week of counterinsurgency and public order training (with a four day exercise), and one week of adventurous training.
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Being a member of the University Officer Training Corps
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Management skills (I was in charge of a section, approximately 8 people) and military training (public order skills, command skills, combat skills); skills in mountain climbing and canoeing in the second phase.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	7-9 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

ASNC Tripos Penultimate

Government Statistical Service - Office for National Statistics
The Government Statistical Service is the community of civil servants working in the collection, production and communication of UK official statistics. I was placed at the Office for National Statistics, which produces official statistics related to the economy, labour market, business, housing, population etc.
Newport, South Wales
I was a Government Statistical Service (GSS) Summer Placement Student at the Office for National Statistics. I was placed in the GSS Careers team and was given a wide range of tasks, such as conducting surveys and analysing the results, producing a workforce planning model, writing reports/briefing notes, minuting meetings, etc.
4 - 8 weeks
Summer
Online searching inc. organisation websites
I developed my skills in analysis and writing for government. I gained an insight into what it is like to work in the Civil Service, which confirmed to me that I wanted to work in the Civil Service after graduating. I was given a current Civil Service Fast Streamer as a mentor and had the opportunity to meet with people from across the ONS to discuss their careers and their current roles. What I found most valuable was the experience of working in a team in a professional office environment. Through attending team meetings and planning sessions, I gained an insight into how teams work in these environments.
£250 - £399
4-6 months
Yes
Helpful contacts;References

If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	N/A
Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Psych & Behav Sciences Tripos Finalist

Name of organisation	Greater London Authority
What does the organisation do?	Local government
Where were you located?	London
What did you do?	Briefing the Mayor, research for the Mayor, attending events
For how long did you do it?	1 - 3 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - friends, family
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Awareness of local government
What were your average weekly earnings?	Expenses only
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	No
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Geographical Tripos Finalist

Name of organisation	Housing and Development Board Singapore
What does the organisation do?	Oversee public housing construction and management in Singapore
Where were you located?	Singapore
What did you do?	Research and planning department - conducted focus groups, did presentations, looked at some data
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Compulsory part of my scholarship from the organization
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Data management skills, insight into what the job comprises
What were your average weekly earnings?	< £249
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	Did not arrange
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	No
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	A job offer;Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	No

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Information withheld.

Name of organisation	Met Office
What does the organisation do?	UK's meteorological and climate research and public information. Informs gov policy on weather, risk and climate change.
Where were you located?	Exeter Devon
What did you do?	Worked with the policy and integration team and the climate science department to produce a policy card on the 1.5 degrees target of warming
For how long did you do it?	Up to 1 week
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - Cambridge alumni, GradLink, College networks
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Understood the importance of policy making. Learnt how to translate science into something concrete. Developed my design and communication skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	Unpaid
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Geographical Tripos Penultimate

Name of organisation	Ministry of Health Singapore
What does the organisation do?	Maps the direction of public health policy in Singapore
Where were you located?	Singapore
What did you do?	Researched and made suggestions about reducing sodium consumption in Singapore, finishing with a report and presentation. Was also involved in helping craft email correspondence between the Ministry and members of the public
For how long did you do it?	9 - 12 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - friends, family
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Insight about how the ministry works and their priorities, writing and presentation skills, network/friends
What were your average weekly earnings?	£249
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	4-6 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Yes
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Intermediate (2nd of 4 year course)
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Natural Sciences Tripos Penultimate

Name of organisation	Office of Rail and Road (The)
What does the organisation do?	Civil service, rail regulator
Where were you located?	London
What did you do?	Temporary assistant administrator to the Project Management team coordinating the inquiry into the rail disruption caused by the introduction of the May 2018 train timetable.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Word of mouth/networking - friends, family
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Understanding of working for a public sector organisation, administrative skills
What were your average weekly earnings?	>£400
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	0-3 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	No
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Helpful contacts;References
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	Penultimate
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Classical Tripos Finalist

Name of organisation	RAF
What does the organisation do?	Branch of Ministry of Defence.
Where were you located?	High Wycombe.
What did you do?	Worked with Personnel Strategy team to develop artificial intelligence and machine learning tools to aid with Personnel planning and strategy.
For how long did you do it?	4 - 8 weeks
In which vacation?	Summer
How did you first find out about this opportunity?	Online searching inc. organisation websites
What did you personally gain from the experience (insights, skills etc.)?	Developed technical skills and knowledge of the industry.
What were your average weekly earnings?	£250 - £399
How long in advance did you start to arrange this experience?	10-12 months
Do you think this opportunity might be available to other Cambridge students?	Arranged as part of a Government-backed sponsorship scheme.
As a result of this experience were you offered anything?	Further vacation experience;Helpful contacts
If you needed a work permit or special visa, how did you obtain one?	

Which year of your University course were you in when you arranged it?	First
Which year did you have this experience?	2018
Do you have any other comments regarding your experience?	

Details of the student who provided this feedback (some students have asked us to omit Raven ID/course details):

Engineering Tripos Other