

# Minomic Internship

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 2019

## 1. Purpose of this document

This document answers questions often raised by students interested in enrolling in the Minomic Internship Program.

## 2. Overview of the Minomic Internship Program

The Minomic Internship Program was established over 6 years ago and since then has helped educate over 30 students. It is an unpaid, non-resident program typically lasting an academic semester of 3-4 months during which the intern studies typically 10-15 hours a week from home or university premises, with a weekly face-to-face progress review at the Minomic office. The program is in two parts, an initial training period of 2 weeks followed by a project period where knowledge and skills learnt during the training period are applied to topics relevant to a biotechnology company such as Minomic. The program provides interns with insights in the biotechnology industry, provides education in immuno-oncology and teaches topics typically not addressed in academia such as intellectual property protection and patent searches, regulatory affairs, clinical trials organisation and competitive business analysis. Past interns have widely praised the Minomic Internship Program for better preparing them for their chosen profession in medical science or biotechnology. The Minomic Internship Program has received formal appreciation from the Macquarie University Faculty of Business and Economics and attracted the attention of a staff member from the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University, USA.

## 3. Frequently asked questions

### 3.1. Who administers and contributes to the program?

The Minomic Internship program is administered by Dr Hubert Mazure, Business Development Manager. Hubert organises and supervises most internships, but interns can also be assigned to other Minomic colleagues such as the Clinical Project Lead as their internship supervisor.

### 3.2. How can students apply for a Minomic Internship?

Simply contact Minomic via the website contact page or via social media such as LinkedIn, explain your interest in the Minomic Internship program and attach or send separately your CV.

### 3.3. From which universities do the interns originate from?

Due to its location, most Minomic Interns originate from Macquarie University. However, Minomic over the years has enrolled interns from Sydney University, University of New South Wales, University of Western Sydney, University of Hong Kong, University of Maryland, University of Virginia and Ohio State University.

### 3.4. At what academic level and in which specialty are the interns?

Due to its focus on discovery in immuno-oncology, The Minomic Internship Program addresses itself almost exclusively to post-graduate students, typically enrolled in a Master's degree in biological sciences / biotechnology or completing a double Master's degree in biotechnology and commerce as offered by Macquarie University.

### 3.5. Do you accept international students?

Certainly. We have in the past welcomed students from Hong Kong and the United States of America. Furthermore, many of our Macquarie University interns completing a double Master's degree in biotechnology and commerce originate from overseas countries such as Mexico, India, Bangladesh, Korea or The Philippines.

### 3.6. Do you accept undergraduate students?

In view of our specialty in immuno-oncology and as past experience has proven, a minimum level of postgraduate training is generally required to carry out Minomic Internship projects. We do not typically recruit undergraduate students although exceptions can be made on rare occasions, such as students with relevant previous work experience.

### 3.7. Do you accept postgraduate or post-doctoral students?

Certainly; we have in the past enrolled students who had completed their degrees, for example as a medical doctor.

### 3.8. Do you accept interns not undertaking an academic degree?

Although a rare-case scenario, in some cases we do enroll students not undertaking an academic degree at the time of enrollment. These students would typically have completed their degree, and in almost all cases, would have completed a prior Minomic Internship and would apply to continue working with us even after completion of their degree, typically until they find a job in the industry.

### 3.9. How are potential interns selected?

Internship applications are initially reviewed by Dr Hubert Mazure. Hubert regularly consults with his colleagues to identify areas of needs for desktop research ranging from scientific literature reviews to patent searches to company profiling or competitive landscape appraisals. These requests for future projects typically guide the recruitment of new Minomic Interns. Short-listed interns are invited for a face to face interview with Dr Mazure where the Minomic Internship program is clearly explained and their abilities and motivations are reviewed. The fact that Minomic Internships are not "residential" (no desk provided, typically) is also pointed out, with internship project work being carried out offsite and reviewed weekly with the internship supervisor, usually Dr Mazure but sometimes other Minomic colleagues.

### 3.10. How does the program work?

The induction part of a Minomic Internship typically lasts 2 weeks. At an initial meeting in the Minomic office, the new intern is asked to execute a confidentiality agreement and any other legal documentation required by their university. Following this first step, the training of the new intern starts with a 1 to 2 hours session, face to face with Dr Mazure, at the Minomic office where the first 2 of 3 modules of the training program are reviewed. The OH&S module (fire safety, etc..) is briefly covered and most time is allocated to the second training module covering mainly immunology fundamentals, prostate cancer and the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. At the end of this first training session the intern is provided with the complete suite of Minomic Internship training modules and asked to review the topics presented that day for the following week training session. The second face to face training session starts with a review of the essential concepts discussed the previous week and follows on with more business-oriented concepts such as intellectual property protection or market research. At the end of this second session the intern is sent away to review the newly acquired concepts and a meeting for the following week is set up. This is when the project phase of the Minomic Internship starts and where the first internship project is discussed and agreed upon.

### 3.11. How many interns can you accommodate at one time?

We can typically accommodate 2 to 3 interns per semester.

### 3.12. Do you remunerate interns?

No, we do not.

### 3.13. Do interns have access to the Minomic laboratory?

Although this scenario has occurred in the past, we realised most Minomic Internships are not geared for laboratory work. Most internships last 3 to 6 months maximum and the training and induction (in particularly OHS) program for laboratory work can be very onerous and time consuming (several weeks), not only for the intern but also for Minomic staff in charge of supervising them in the laboratory, leaving little time for the intern to accomplish any meaningful project work. For these reasons we do not usually give interns projects involving lab work.

### 3.14. Are interns provided with a desk or workstation?

Not usually, although we have made some exceptions to this rule in the past. Our program is “non-residential”. The internship projects are designed to be carried out by the interns online and offsite, at home or in university premises.

### 3.15. What is the typical duration and time requirements of an internship?

The typical duration of a Minomic Internship is a university semester lasting 3 to 4 months. The typical workload during the training period (~ 2 weeks) and the project period (~ 10-12 weeks) is 10 to 15 hours a week.

### 3.16. What types of projects are prepared by the interns?

Minomic Internship projects are designed to:

- Be conducted through online research, offsite by the intern, typically over a period of 1 or 2 weeks.
- Require on average 10 to 15 hours work per week.
- Reflect the business priorities at the time of Minomic International Ltd.

Typical internship projects include:

- Review of scientific literature to summarise the landscape of a particular subject
- Online scientific publication searches (PubMed or Google Scholar) to explore a particular topic
- Online patent searches
- Exploration of the regulatory status or legislation relating to a particular topic
- Exploration of the status of a particular industry sector
- Competitor company evaluations
- Assessment of the market capitalisation and valuation of companies in a particular sector
- Comparative product evaluations based on published literature and data

### 3.17. How is an internship project submitted, reviewed and completed?

A Minomic Internship project starts with a face-to-face meeting with the Minomic supervisor, usually Dr Mazure, where the project is explained, background information is provided, a formal project request is presented together with a project report template and if required, a specific training session is organised for the intern, if the field of investigation was not covered extensively enough during the initial Minomic Internship training period. At the end of this first project meeting a date is made a week later for a progress review or final reporting on the project. When



the project report has been completed, the intern typically emails it to the supervisor prior to the final face-to-face meeting for this project. All reference materials (usually in PDF) are brought to the meeting by the intern on the USB stick provided at the start of the internship training. After that, a new project can start.

### **3.18. What happens at the end of an internship?**

At the end of a Minomic Internship, Dr Mazure and the intern fill in whatever documentation might be required by the intern's university confirming the successful completion of the internship. Dr Mazure also provides each past intern with a testimonial relating to the internship. Finally, each ex-intern is invited to join the Minomic Linked In followers page and upload testimonials.

### **3.19. What success have past interns in finding jobs in the industry?**

Several ex-Minomic interns have successfully found work in the industry, notably in the biotechnology sector. Dr Mazure typically offers to act as a job referee and when asked, provides advice regarding job seeking in the biotechnology, medical devices or pharmaceutical industry.

### **3.20. Do you offer employment to past-interns?**

We have on occasions offered consultancy contracts to past Minomic interns, but this is a rare occurrence. As regards employment opportunities, Minomic interns are treated as all applicants and would be made aware of any new job offer if they have registered as a follower on the Minomic Linked In page.

### **3.21. Any acknowledgement from past interns about the program?**

Yes, we have received numerous comments of appreciation from past interns, and we have uploaded some of them on our social media pages.