

**UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE EXTENSION FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
“CAREER EDGE” INTERNSHIP**

The Family and Consumer Sciences “**Career Edge**” internship is designed to be an experiential learning opportunity for students in FCS related academic programs. The internship provides participants an in-depth look at Extension as a career choice. A major component of the internship is the opportunity for participants to work with the Tennessee Nutrition and Consumer Education Program (TNCEP). The mission of TNCEP is to empower limited-resource families to reduce the risk of poor nutrition, effectively use the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and related resources while moving toward self-sufficiency.

FCS “**Career Edge**” provides students with an opportunity to “earn while they learn,” through a window of nutrition health and FCS related experiences. The Intern field experience will:

- Provide an orientation to Extension community education and outreach efforts.
- Provide a learning environment to aid students in the acquisition of new knowledge.
- Include practical experiences in the design and implementation of community-based extension programs.
- Provide students with a successful mentoring experience designed to integrate them into the extension system.

FCS “Career Edge” Objectives:

- To foster synergy between universities and the FCS program.
- To locate talented students at universities and link them with Extension.
- To provide students with rich educational experiences.
- To increase exposure for the TNCEP initiative and the FCS program through career enhancement.
- To expand outreach efforts to diverse audiences within the state.

The TNCEP Initiative:

- Is part of the extension and outreach program through The University of Tennessee Extension.
- Is an initiative located within 92 counties within Tennessee.
- Delivers outreach education to SNAP eligible families (adults and youth).
- Provides opportunities for rich educational experiences through valuable workplace internships and employment.

FCS “Career Edge” Eligibility:

- Must be enrolled in a college of Family Consumer Sciences, nutrition, public health, or closely related major.
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.7 or higher (on a 4.0 system).
- Ability to work with others, as well as work individually.
- Valid driver’s license required.
- Must have good verbal and written communication skills.
- Students admitted into the internship program must:
 - Conduct one multi-session TNCEP program [minimum of two (2) sessions] for an adult audience, during the course of the internship.
 - Submit an end-of project report.
 - Have a minimum of one site visit by an extension faculty member or a college professor (participating with the FCS internship program).

FCS “Career Edge” Supervision:

The Associate Dean and the TNCEP Project Director will have the responsibility for the coordination of the internship program. Administratively, supervision will be coordinated through Regional Directors, County Extension Directors, and FCS agents within specified counties.