The AICPA Examinations Team continually strives to improve and strengthen the Uniform CPA Examination testing program through research on the use of enhanced technology and advanced measurement models.

We have a long tradition of working with graduate students through a summer internship program, providing advanced graduate students the opportunity to work on a state-of-the-art operational exam under the supervision of psychometricians at the AICPA. The program has been very successful and productive -- internships typically lead to a published internal technical report and a presentation at a national psychometric conference.

**Program Description**

Our internship research opportunities are structured, project-based experiences. Psychometricians from the Examinations team will lead interns through the development, execution and write-up of a focused psychometric research study. Students will be assigned topics based on their interests and skills from the team’s research agenda.

**Research Agenda**

Current research agenda topics include:

- Building a forensic monitoring/cheating behavior detection system using statistical methods and/or artificial intelligence;
- Examining local item dependence indices for use in determining violations of local item independence;
- Investigating novel optimization techniques for automated test assembly (ATA), including shadow test approaches;
- Examining model-data fit indices in the presence of sparse data matrices due to MST/CAT;
- Investigating examinee classification accuracy across different modeling approaches;
- Operationalizing MIRT modeling approaches; and
- Comparing techniques for automated scoring of constructed responses for content.

**Eligibility**

Applicants should be graduate students in the latter phase of their program in Psychometrics, Educational Measurement, I/O Psychology, Statistics, Computer Science or a related field. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed their coursework and have strong evidence of research experience.

**Duration**

Successful candidates will be hired for eight weeks during the summer of 2015, with the first week being on-site at the Examinations office in Ewing, New Jersey. While in Ewing, students will work with staff mentors to develop the specifics of their assigned studies. Students will then spend the remaining seven weeks at their home university, at which time they will conduct their studies and deliver an agreed-upon set of deliverables that document their results and findings.

**Compensation**

Interns will be paid a $5,000 stipend. Additionally, the AICPA covers all travel expenses, including hotel and per diem costs for on-site visits.
How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit the following:

1. Cover letter with contact information (address, email, phone) and description of educational background
2. Statement of research interests, skills and how they relate to the projects listed above (1 – 2 pages, double-spaced)
3. Current curriculum vitae
4. Two letters of recommendation

Applications and questions regarding the internship program should be sent electronically to Jonathan Rubright, Ph.D., at jrubright@aicpa.org.

Deadline

Applications must be received by Friday, February 20, 2015.