



Engineering Success – Terrell Grannum thrives at his internship with National Grid



During his time at Kingsborough, Terrell Grannum, an Engineering Science major, has cultivated a glowing resume: Honor's Club, National Society for Leadership, Phi Theta Kappa, and more. After Kingsborough, Terrell plans to continue pursuing his studies of Electrical Engineering, and he hopes to one day run his own firm or consulting service. Yet for all of his obvious talent, ambition and academic pedigree, Terrell still knew that something crucial was missing from his repertoire: *hands-on experience in a professional setting.*

Fortunately, National Grid was able to offer Terrell just what he was looking for in the form of a paid summer internship. A longtime corporate and philanthropic partner of Kingsborough's, National Grid understands that in today's unforgiving job market, students need more than just stellar grades to secure even an entry-level position in many career fields. Terrell also knew this from his own experiences in the workforce, so when he saw a flyer on campus about the internship, he leapt at the opportunity. Competing against dozens of his fellow Kingsborough students, Terrell went through a rigorous, month-long interview process before he finally got the great news: "I was so honored to have been chosen!"

For eight weeks this summer, Terrell clocked in at National Grid's office in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, where he worked in the Customer Meter Services department: "I was a little intimidated at first, but I gradually became acclimated to the office environment and the daily pace." Over the course of the internship, Terrell took on a wide range of responsibilities, from answering phones and clerical work to database maintenance, technical support and even coordinating service

jobs throughout the Brooklyn area: “My supervisors wanted to start me small at first, but after they got a better sense of my skillset they let me take on bigger projects.” And while he did not get to do any electrical engineering of his own, Terrell was granted an in-depth tour of the engineering wing and the chance to talk with some of the scientists on site. Finally, in addition to being an eye-opener, Terrell’s experience may just prove to be a *door-opener* down the road as well: “Even though it was just an internship, I made sure to network as much as I could, so that when I am applying for engineering positions in the future, they’ll remember me.”

Reflecting on his busy summer, Terrell is also particularly proud to have represented Kingsborough at National Grid: “All of the other summer interns I met were from four-year colleges. I was the only student-intern from a community college, and while that felt strange at first, I quickly realized that I was just as capable as they were.”

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