# Cloudflare aims to hire 1,111 interns in 2026 amid industry talent shift



Cloudflare has announced a bold initiative to recruit 1,111 interns in 2026 as part of an expansive effort to provide practical, hands-on technology experience for university students globally. This represents a dramatic increase from its previous programme of around 60 participants and will be implemented through Cloudflare’s "Intern-et" programme, spanning key international hubs including Austin, San Francisco, New York, Bengaluru, Lisbon, and London. The internships intend to immerse students in real-world projects such as developing serverless applications and supporting network infrastructure, with direct access to senior leadership and dedicated mentorship throughout the 12-week programmes, which will run across spring, summer, and fall sessions.

This expansion comes amid growing challenges in technology career entry points, as labour markets evolve in response to the rise of artificial intelligence automation. Cloudflare cites data suggesting a significant decline—up to 13%—in employment for young workers aged 22 to 25 in AI-exposed roles like software engineering and customer service since late 2022. Moreover, the tech internship job market has contracted, with sources such as Handshake noting a 30% drop in tech-specific internship postings since 2023. Matthew Prince, Cloudflare’s Co-Founder and CEO, emphasised this moment of transition as an opportunity rather than a setback, referencing the company’s history of growth during crises, including doubling intern numbers in the pandemic. He highlighted the company’s distinctive view of AI, seeing the younger generation as instrumental in harnessing AI’s potential rather than as competition for jobs.

In addition to the internship expansion, Cloudflare has introduced several measures aimed at fostering student innovation and supporting startups. US-based post-secondary students with valid .edu email addresses will receive one year of free access to Cloudflare Workers, the company’s serverless application platform, enabling them to deploy code and experiment without upfront cost. This move is intended to empower students to build and test new applications on Cloudflare’s global network.

Further supporting innovation, Cloudflare will open its office spaces in Austin, Lisbon, London, and San Francisco to select startups building on its platform starting January 2026. This initiative allows these startups to collaborate closely with Cloudflare staff and other innovators, sharing resources and networking opportunities in designated collaboration zones. This complements the company’s ongoing Cloudflare for Startups programme, which has already dispensed over $370 million in credits to more than 4,000 eligible startups, helping them tackle scaling challenges. Among these supported firms, more than 900 have cumulatively raised over $5 billion in funding, underscoring the programme’s impact on nurturing burgeoning technology companies.

Cloudflare’s approach reflects a broader industry trend of large technology firms intensifying efforts to cultivate future talent pipelines amid shifting dynamics in employment and automation. By substantially increasing internship opportunities, providing no-cost tools for students, and facilitating startup ecosystems, Cloudflare claims to position itself as both a training ground and a collaborative hub for the next generation of technology leaders. Prospective interns, especially those studying computer science, engineering, mathematics, or related disciplines, are encouraged to apply, with Cloudflare offering competitive pay, relocation stipends, and a rigorous but supportive interview process.

With these initiatives, Cloudflare attempts to confront current labour market challenges head-on, aiming to blend practical education with industry experience while fostering innovation that could shape the future technology landscape.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support), [[2]](https://www.cloudflare.net/news/news-details/2025/Cloudflare-Aims-to-Hire-1111-Interns-in-2026-to-Help-Train-the-Next-Generation-of-Technology-Leaders/default.aspx), [[3]](https://blog.cloudflare.com/cloudflare-1111-intern-program/), [[6]](https://www.themuse.com/jobs/cloudflare/software-engineer-intern-summer-2026)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support), [[4]](https://www.benzinga.com/markets/tech/25/09/47792345/cloudflare-commits-to-hiring-1111-interns-to-boost-future-tech-talent)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support), [[4]](https://www.benzinga.com/markets/tech/25/09/47792345/cloudflare-commits-to-hiring-1111-interns-to-boost-future-tech-talent), [[5]](https://blog.cloudflare.com/workers-for-students/), [[7]](https://www.tipranks.com/news/the-fly/cloudflare-announces-goal-to-hire-1111-interns-in-2026-thefly)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support), [[4]](https://www.benzinga.com/markets/tech/25/09/47792345/cloudflare-commits-to-hiring-1111-interns-to-boost-future-tech-talent)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support), [[2]](https://www.cloudflare.net/news/news-details/2025/Cloudflare-Aims-to-Hire-1111-Interns-in-2026-to-Help-Train-the-Next-Generation-of-Technology-Leaders/default.aspx), [[3]](https://blog.cloudflare.com/cloudflare-1111-intern-program/), [[4]](https://www.benzinga.com/markets/tech/25/09/47792345/cloudflare-commits-to-hiring-1111-interns-to-boost-future-tech-talent), [[6]](https://www.themuse.com/jobs/cloudflare/software-engineer-intern-summer-2026), [[7]](https://www.tipranks.com/news/the-fly/cloudflare-announces-goal-to-hire-1111-interns-in-2026-thefly)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/cloudflare-to-offer-1-111-global-internships-expand-student-support> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.cloudflare.net/news/news-details/2025/Cloudflare-Aims-to-Hire-1111-Interns-in-2026-to-Help-Train-the-Next-Generation-of-Technology-Leaders/default.aspx> - Cloudflare has announced its goal to hire 1,111 interns in 2026, aiming to provide hands-on experience and mentorship to a diverse group of students. The 'Intern-et' programme will offer opportunities to work on real-world projects, including developing serverless applications and supporting network infrastructure. Internships will be available throughout the year in Cloudflare hubs such as Austin, San Francisco, New York, Bengaluru, Lisbon, and London, where students will have in-person access to senior leadership and dedicated mentorship.
3. <https://blog.cloudflare.com/cloudflare-1111-intern-program/> - Cloudflare has set a goal to hire 1,111 interns in 2026, referencing its 1.1.1.1 DNS resolver. Interns will work in hubs including Austin, San Francisco, New York, Bengaluru, Lisbon, and London, receiving mentorship and contributing to projects impacting Internet infrastructure. The internships will last 12 weeks, with opportunities in spring, summer, and fall. Cloudflare offers competitive pay and stipends for relocation. Applications will be reviewed in batches until all positions are filled, with a 3-4 week interview process.
4. <https://www.benzinga.com/markets/tech/25/09/47792345/cloudflare-commits-to-hiring-1111-interns-to-boost-future-tech-talent> - Cloudflare has committed to hiring 1,111 interns in 2026 to support students and startups. The initiative includes providing free access to developer tools for U.S. university students and offering office space for approved startups in cities like San Francisco, Austin, Lisbon, and London. The Cloudflare for Startups program has already awarded over $370 million in credits to more than 4,000 firms, with participants raising over $5 billion in funding.
5. <https://blog.cloudflare.com/workers-for-students/> - Cloudflare is offering U.S. university students with a valid .edu email address one year of free access to Cloudflare Workers, its serverless platform for building and deploying applications. This initiative allows students to deploy code directly on Cloudflare’s network to experiment and innovate without upfront costs. To redeem the offer, students can sign up for a free Cloudflare account with their .edu email and add their credit card.
6. <https://www.themuse.com/jobs/cloudflare/software-engineer-intern-summer-2026> - Cloudflare is seeking Software Engineer Interns for Summer 2026. Interns will work alongside experienced engineers, contributing to projects that impact hundreds of millions of web users. The program offers a 12-16 week internship with autonomy and support, mentorship, and opportunities to present projects to the entire company. Applicants should be pursuing a degree in Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Statistics, or a relevant field, with a commitment to a minimum 12-week summer internship.
7. <https://www.tipranks.com/news/the-fly/cloudflare-announces-goal-to-hire-1111-interns-in-2026-thefly> - Cloudflare has announced its goal to hire 1,111 interns in 2026. The company will also make available developer tools to students studying at United States universities at no cost for one year. By offering students valuable hands-on experience, the company aims to empower the next generation of technology leaders and innovators with the skills and knowledge needed to create the applications of the future.