

Investigation on the Internship Status of College Student in Yunnan Province

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Abstract: As an important practice of Chinese college students before entering the workplace, internship is one of the most important factors affecting their career development. With provincial colleges and universities in Yunnan Province as the main survey object, this paper has investigated the internship duration, internship places of college students and the type of employers for internship through questionnaire survey method, and analyzed relevant reasons. It is hoped that the results of this research can provide some enlightenment for college students.

1. Introduction

In recent years, the number of university graduates in Yunnan Province has increased significantly. Relevant data show that the number of college graduates in Yunnan Province has reached 205,000 in 2018, of which 10% took part in postgraduate entrance exams. In the rest 90%, except for a very small number studying abroad, most graduates have entered the work force. Since most employers use internship as an important human resource management tool for selecting talents, the influence of internship before graduation on the career development of college students is far-reaching and enduring. In summary, it is necessary to conduct an investigation on the internship status of college student, which is the main research content of this paper.

After a comprehensive consideration of the actual conditions for the research activities, the research team decided to adopt questionnaire method as the main research method supplemented by literature research method. First, the team randomly handed out 500 questionnaires to college graduates in Yunnan colleges and universities. The questionnaire consists of a series of questions related to internship and career development. Finally, 474 questionnaires were collected, of which 427 were valid. Based on the 427 valid ones, the team conducted descriptive statistics to measure the behaviors and attitudes of the target group. The group then used literature research method to collect relevant literature in the past five years for analysis and summary. It is hoped that the research results of this paper can provide more data for research on college students' internship.

2. Investigation and analysis of the internship duration of college students

Since most universities and colleges allow three months for students to finish their internship, this survey divides the internship duration into three levels: three months or less, three to six months, six months or more. The statistical results of the three levels are shown in Table 1.

Table.1. Statistical results of college students' internship duration

Duration	Number of people	Proportion
3 months or less	62	14.5%
3-6 months	340	79.6%
6 months or more	25	5.9%
Total	427	100%

It can be seen from Table 1:

2.1 Most college students choose an internship duration of three to six months

Table 1 shows that 79.6% of college students choose three to six months' internship. According to the data from the survey, the main reasons are as follows: all colleges and universities require college students to finish their internship in their senior year; most universities and colleges allow three months for internship.

2.2 A small number of college students choose an internship duration of three months or less

Table 1 shows that 14.5% of college students choose an internship duration of three months or less. According to the data from the survey, there are three main reasons: (1) some students were going to take part in postgraduate entrance exams in which they invested their most time and energy, therefore, their internship duration was relatively short; (2) some students did not regard the internship as an important matter, so they did it in a perfunctory manner; (3) very few students had signed employment agreements with enterprises before internship, so they didn't need such a long internship.

2.3 A very small number of college students choose an internship duration of six months or more

Table 1 shows that only 5.9% of college students choose an internship duration of six months or more. According to the data from the survey, there are two main reasons: (1) some special positions require longer internship; (2) some students change their employers for internship midway for various reasons.

3. The status quo and analysis of the places college students choose for internship

Due to the imbalance of resources among different internship places, this survey divides the internship destinations of college students into three scopes: the district where their school is located (in Yunnan province), other provinces and cities in China, other countries and regions (including Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan). The results are shown in Table 2. Three conclusions can be drawn from Table 2.

Table.2. Statistical results of college students' internship places

Place of internship	Number of people	Proportion
In Yunnan province	309	72.4%
Outside Yunnan province	105	24.6%
In foreign countries	13	3.0%
Total	427	100%

3.1 Most college students choose enterprises or instructions in the district where their school is located (in Yunnan province) for internship

Table 2 shows that 72.4% of college students choose enterprises or instructions in the district where their school is located (in Yunnan province) for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are four main reasons: (1) some universities and colleges provide students with internship bases close to the school, and actively recommend positions to the students; (2) choosing internship destinations close to the school is cost efficient; (3) parents and teachers are willing to advise students to choose a closer place for safety reasons; (4) employment resources relevant to their majors in these places are rich and helpful for their career after graduation.

3.2 A small number of college students choose enterprises or instructions outside Yunnan province for internship

Table 2 shows that 24.6% of college students choose enterprises or instructions outside Yunnan province for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are four main reasons: (1) the employment resources of the city where their schools are located is scarce, so in order to meet their

career needs, students have to spend more time and money in selecting internship positions in other cities; (2) their target employers have no job opportunities in Yunnan province or there is no job related to their majors; (3) most of these students would choose a well-established first-tier city such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen because they think that these first-tier cities have more opportunities for them to realize their self-value; (4) a small number of students choose to find internship positions in their hometown because they want to work there after graduation for which the internship can lay a foundation.

3.3 Very few college students choose foreign enterprises or instructions for internship

Table 2 shows that only 3% of college students choose foreign enterprises or instructions for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are three main reasons: (1) international students and exchange students intend to return to their countries of origin after graduation, and internship in these countries is more in line with their career development needs; (2) some overseas countries and regions have talent introduction program. Those who meet the requirements choose to go out of China to gain better internship experience and improve their foreign language proficiency and international communication skills; (3) they are going to study abroad and foreign internship opportunities can better meet their needs.

4. The status quo and analysis of the employer's college students choose for internship

This survey divides the employers college students choose for internship into four categories based on the ownership of the organization: state-owned enterprises, private enterprises, foreign enterprises, and public institutions. The statistical results are shown in Table 3. Four conclusions can be drawn from Table 3.

Table.3. Statistical results of the employers college students choose for internship

Employer for internship	Number of people	Proportion
State-owned enterprises	52	12.2%
Private enterprises	284	66.5%
Foreign enterprises	18	4.2%
Public institution	73	17.1%
Total	427	100%

4.1 Very few college students choose foreign enterprises or instructions for internship

Table 3 shows that 66.5% of college students choose enterprises for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are three main reasons: (1) private enterprises have greater demand for interns. Some enterprises in partnership with colleges offer a large number of internship positions for students; (2) private enterprises have a relatively low thresholds or even no threshold, so it is easier for students to apply internship positions; (3) in private enterprises, interns have more opportunities to do practical work and more access to a variety of jobs, which help to improve their work skills.

4.2 Some college students choose public institutions for internship

Table 3 shows that 17.1% of college students choose public institutions for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are two main reasons: (1) workloads in public institutions are lighter and easier, students can take care of other graduation-related matters while gaining internship experience; (2) public institutions provide students who are interested in taking civil service examinations with more chances to know their future job and working environment.

4.3 A small number of college students choose state-owned enterprises for internship

Table 3 shows that 12.2% of college students choose state-owned enterprises for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are two main reasons: (1) state-owned enterprises have

sound rules and regulations, so they can better protect the legitimate rights and interests of students during their internship; (2) the brand effect of state-owned enterprises can glorify students' resume.

4.4 A small number of college students choose state-owned enterprises for internship

Table 3 shows that only 4.2% of college students choose foreign enterprises for internship. According to the data from the survey, there are three main reasons: (1) foreign companies have higher requirements for foreign language proficiency, and students can improve their foreign language skills; (2) some students hope to participate in international projects during their internship in foreign companies; (3) foreign companies have attractive compensations and benefits.

5. Conclusion

In China, internship of college students is getting more and more attention. This paper enriches the data of college students' internship status through statistical analysis of the survey data and cause analysis of the reasons, hoping to provide some empirical evidence for other scholars to carry on further studies on the internship of college students.

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