IAE Software Engineering Intern - Spring 2026 (Student Assistant Role)

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UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA

Job Identification: 42292

Job Category: Admin Support

Degree Level: High School Graduate

Locations: 4202 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL, 33620, US

Essential Personnel: No
Job Description

INTERN POSITION SUMMARY

The IAE is seeking a Software Engineering Intern with emphasis in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) to support ongoing research and development projects at the institute. The intern will work directly with engineering staff on projects involving the design, development, testing, and validation of intelligent software systems. This role provides

hands-on experience in applying software engineering practices to AI/ML-enabled applications, including data handling, model experimentation, and integration of machine learning components into larger system concepts.

Responsibilities

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Software Engineering Intern (AI/ML emphasis) will collaborate with engineers and peer interns to support research, experimentation, and software development. Specific responsibilities include:

- Participate in concept definition, maturation, and use case refinement for AI/ML-enabled systems.
- Assist in identifying and evaluating machine learning algorithms, frameworks, and tools for project use cases.
- Support data exploration, preprocessing, and analysis for training/testing ML

models.

- Develop prototype applications in Python or other high-level languages to integrate ML models into system workflows.
- Conduct experiments with ML algorithms to demonstrate feasibility and

performance.

Contribute to development of system/software architectures incorporating ML

components.

- Establish and maintain project documentation, including requirements, analyses, experimental results, and designs.
- Present findings and progress to project leads and team members.

Qualifications

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates for this internship should be full-time students (at least sophomore, junior,) pursuing a degree in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Computer Engineering, or Robotics, Engineering program of study. Candidates should have classroom or team project experience in software development, with interest or exposure to AI/ML concepts.

Desired qualifications include:

Due to the nature of working with DoD/CUI information, U.S. Citizenship is required for candidates.

- This role is open to active USF Students only.
- Experience developing applications in one or more higher-level programming

languages (e.g., Python, Java, C/C++) with a solid background in data structures and algorithms.

Basic understanding of machine learning principles (e.g., supervised vs.

unsupervised learning, model training/testing, evaluation metrics).

- Familiarity with at least one ML framework (e.g., PyTorch, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, HuggingFace).
- A basic understanding of software design concepts and (preferably) experience with UML.
- Experience with Linux and shell scripting.
- Familiarity with software version control tools (e.g., Git, Bitbucket, CodeCommit).
- Awareness of the software development lifecycle and agile development concepts.
- Excellent communication skills: able to work in a diverse team; able to write and review technical documentation; able to present concepts and designs clearly.
- Initiative: able to self-organize, self-motivate, and work proactively and productively with minimal supervision.

About Us

Working at USF

With approximately 16,000 employees, the University of South Florida is one of the largest employers in the Tampa Bay area. We are dedicated to cultivating a talented, engaged and driven workforce that strives to be bold. Employees excel in USF's rich academic environment, which fosters their development and advancement. In 2025, Forbes recognized USF as one of Florida's best large employers, ranked No. 1 among the state's 12 public universities. Our first-class benefits package includes medical, dental and life insurance plans, retirement plan options, employee and dependent tuition programs, generous leave, and hundreds of employee perks and discounts.

About USF

The University of South Florida is a top-ranked research university serving approximately 50,000 students from across the globe at campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and USF Health. USF is recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a top 50 public university and the best value in Florida. U.S. News also ranks the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine as the No. 1 medical school in Florida and in the highest tier nationwide. USF is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), a group that includes only the top 3% of universities in the U.S. With an all-time high of $738 million in research funding in 2024 and as a top 20 public university for producing U.S. patents, USF uses

innovation to transform lives and shape a better future. The university generates an annual economic impact of more than $6 billion. USF's Division I athletics teams compete in the American Athletic Conference. Learn more at www.usf.edu.

Compliance and Federal Notices

This position may be subject to a Level 1 or Level 2 criminal background check.

Applicants have rights under Federal Employment Laws:

The University of South Florida is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on any characteristic protected by law. The University maintains programs for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws.

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Applicants for USF employment are entitled to request reasonable accommodation(s) in the application process. A request is to be made at least five (5) working days prior to the time the accommodation(s) is needed. Visit the Central Human Resources ADA Accommodations webpage for more information on requesting an accommodation during the application/interview process.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The University of South Florida is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on any characteristic protected by law. The University maintains affirmative action programs for protected veterans and individuals with disabilities in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws. This job description does not constitute an employment contract.
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