



Candice Burgin

Workplace experience



Graduates often find it difficult to enter the job market on completion of their studies if they do not already have some work experience. It's the old "can't get a job without experience, can't get experience without a job" conundrum.
By Candice Burgin

The Citrus Academy has implemented a number of workplace learning programmes to give bursary fund students opportunities to gain experience in the workplace, thereby making them more employable.

We arrange vacation jobs on citrus farms and in packhouses, or at other appropriate workplaces for undergraduate and diploma students who are beneficiaries of the Citrus Academy Bursary Fund. The purpose is to assist learners with their studies by providing them with the practical experience needed to supplement and apply theoretical knowledge. At the same time, students' marketable skills are developed and they are given the opportunity to build a network of contacts, thereby increasing their chances of finding permanent employment in the citrus industry after completion of their studies.

The vacation work programme was

suspended for 2020 because of restrictions around the COVID-19 pandemic, but in 2021 we hope to see it return in full swing. There are 25 bursary fund students who are keen to get out there and work. Agricultural students who are not beneficiaries of the Citrus Academy Bursary Fund are also welcome to contact us, should they want to work during their holidays.

The Citrus Academy also arranges internship and workplace experience placements for bursary fund students at companies in the industry. Internship periods range from six months to a year, and students are normally placed with production units or packhouses in the citrus industry. 🍊

If you are interested in hosting students for vacation work or internships, please get in touch with Londiwe at londiwe@citrusacademy.org.za.



Citrus Academy students gaining workplace experience

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