



International Headquarters
535 16th Street, Suite 605
Denver, CO 80202 USA

Build Disaster-Resistant Buildings
Change Construction Practice Permanently

WORK FOR AN AWARD-WINNING NON-PROFIT SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Position Title: Testing and Research Intern
Industry: Non-profit/International Development
Function: Technical
Employer: Build Change
Location: Denver
Start Date: Immediate
Terms: 8-10 week minimum commitment; no compensation

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Founded in 2004, Build Change is a non-profit social enterprise whose mission is to save lives in earthquakes and hurricanes. Build Change designs disaster-resistant houses and schools, trains homeowners, builders, engineers and government officials to build them, works with governments to develop and implement building standards, partners with the private sector to improve building materials quality and create jobs, and facilitates access to incentive-based capital for reconstruction and retrofitting by partnering with financing institutions and government subsidy programs. Build Change started its work in Aceh, Indonesia after the 2004 earthquake and tsunami and has since expanded to include programs in China, Haiti, Colombia, Guatemala, Nepal, and the Philippines. Build Change has trained more than 23,000 people on earthquake-resistant design and construction techniques, created more than 12,000 jobs and provided technical assistance for more than 48,000 safer buildings, impacting an estimated 245,00 people. Please visit www.buildchange.org for more information on our programs.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

For the position of Testing and Research Intern, Build Change is seeking a motivated individual who is passionate about improving access to engineering information, particularly in developing countries. The ideal candidate will have strong organizational skills, an attention to detail, experience writing experimental lab reports, an understanding of materials testing procedures, and a professional but friendly demeanor.

We foresee the person in this position will achieve the following Learning Objectives:

- Learn about experimental testing work being performed in emerging countries, often with materials and components that have not yet been extensively researched or tested
- Further your understanding of standard testing protocol, such as those established by ASTM standards
- Gain practical experience editing and composing laboratory reports for a variety of tests from various country programs and in developing experimental testing programs
- Improve communication skills through working with Build Change engineering teams executing experimental testing globally to document their work, and through presenting final reports digitally on Build Change's website

- Learn about the importance of experimental testing in improving the seismic and wind resistance of housing and schools in developing countries

This position reports to the Director of Engineering, with frequent interaction with Build Change headquarters and global engineering staff.

Responsibilities:

Responsibilities will vary based on start date and current needs of Build Change. Likely responsibilities include:

- Prepare standard templates for Build Change experimental test reporting and disseminate them to the engineering team globally
- Review and edit existing experimental testing reports prepared by Build Change to comply with the established report templates
- Propose and implement a method for standardizing and sharing high volume testing data generated by Build Change’s better building materials programs
- Liaise with the engineering team globally to compile and organize all test reports
- Work with the engineering team globally to maintain the reporting standards for ongoing and new tests
- Perform research on testing performed by others to inform Build Change testing programs
- Work with Build Change’s communications staff to organize and post finalized testing reports in a clear and logical way on Build Change’s website

Qualifications:

- Undergraduate, recent graduate, or graduate student studying one of the following:
 - Civil Engineering
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Geotechnical Engineering
 - Structural, Materials or Earthquake Engineering
- Able to commit to a minimum of 8 hours/week at the Build Change HQ in Denver, CO for a minimum of 8-10 weeks
- An understanding of Build Change’s mission and the context of international development work
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite
- Experience with Google Docs and Google Drive
- Demonstrated experience in performing experimental testing, such as materials lab, and composing clear and concise but complete test reports
- Professional demeanor in person and in writing
- Strong attention to detail and organized
- Knowledge of French, Spanish, Bahasa Indonesia, Nepali, or Tagalog a major plus
- Experience living or working in an emerging nation a plus

To Apply:

Please answer these questions in no more than 250 words and submit your resume and a sample lab report to Lizzie Collins at lizzie@buildchange.org, with the subject “T&R Intern”

1. Why do you want to intern at Build Change?
2. What makes you a good candidate for this internship at Build Change?
3. Describe a personal achievement, outlining what was involved in achieving it, any lessons learned from the experience, and why it was important to you.