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## **Record number of interns join HSBC Malta Foundation's initiative**

The HSBC Malta Foundation has received a record number of applications for the summer internship and two-year internship programmes offered by HSBC Bank Malta. Organised in conjunction with the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST), the University of Malta, the JAYE (Young Enterprise) Malta Foundation and HSBC Insurance Malta, the internship programme aims to support young people wishing to enter the financial service industry in preparing for their careers.

Those students who had completed the Company Programme Achieve initiative and the Employee Support Programme (ESP) were eligible to apply for internship positions. In the two-year internship programme, 17 students from MCAST will have an immersive experience of working in the financial services sector. From the beginning of July until the end of September, 8 students from the University of Malta and 5 from the JAYE Malta Foundation will fill internship positions at the offices of HSBC Malta. An additional student, specializing in mathematics and statistics will be interning with HSBC Insurance. Experience has shown that a number of these interns will end up securing jobs with the bank once their internship ends.

The interns will join one of HSBC Malta's global functions or businesses and will have the opportunity to spend time with, and learn from, executives and senior management members. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss and explore career progression opportunities within the organisation.

During their internship, students will have the opportunity to understand how the bank serves its customers and drives performance. They will have the opportunity to work with colleagues across countries, coming from different backgrounds and possessing different skills and expertise. They will also learn how each employee can contribute towards HSBC's ambition to become the first NetZero bank by 2030.

Caroline Buhagiar Klass, Head of Human Resources at the HSBC Malta, said: "The internship programme is in line with the bank's long-standing commitment to empowering future entrepreneurs and business leaders. Internships have proven to be pivotal in training future professionals and creating a healthy talent pipeline for our bank. Getting hands-on experience helps to solidify the theoretical knowledge students acquire during their academic studies. Furthermore, immersing in a corporate environment from a young age bolsters an entrepreneurial mindset which is essential for a thriving economy in Malta, especially at times when we are seeing a widening skills gap between graduates' knowledge and the labour market's requirements."



**PHOTOCAPTION: HSBC Bank Malta Interns gather in front of the bank's flagship branch in Qormi.**

***HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.***

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