Criteria for University of Maine Flagship Internship Program Designation

Tangible and Substantial Learning Outcomes
To ensure high quality learning experiences, Flagship Internships should have defined learning outcomes. See attached example.

Pre-Internship Training for Students
The internship program should provide pre-internship training to increase the likelihood of student success and to enhance student learning.

Mentorship/Networking
Internships should include some form of faculty, staff or employer mentorship to enhance student engagement, and internships should also provide networking opportunities for students to gain exposure to a number of employers and to build networking skills.

Employer Vetting
Flagship internships should have a process for vetting employers and their internship opportunities to ensure a quality experience for the students. In addition, students should receive some form of pay or stipend for their work, and ideally employers should contribute toward that pay, demonstrating that they have “skin in the game.”

A Process for Vetting Student Applicants
Students should be able to demonstrate a likelihood of success relevant to the nature of the internship program.

Opportunities for Students to Present Their Work
Students should have the opportunity to present their work, projects and learning outcomes before a general audience. Programs do not have to create their own events; their students will participate in the annual Flagship showcase.

Feedback and Assessment
Internship programs should obtain feedback from both students and employers for an evaluation of student performance, learning outcomes and the overall quality of the internship program.