## CONNECTING BUSINESSES TO STUDENTS

The Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) addresses one of the top issues facing the business community: talent. Focusing on internships produces a well-trained, quality workforce with the skills needed to fill indemand jobs across the Commonwealth.

#### WHAT IS V-TOP?

V-TOP provides the essential tools and resources to create or expand internship opportunities. Our role is to facilitate internship readiness by connecting Virginia businesses, students, and higher educaiton institutions.



#### PROVIDING THE RIGHT RESOURCES

We give businesses vital tools to help develop and grow their internship program.



#### PUTTING OPPORTUNITY WITHIN REACH

We help businesses connect with students and higher education institutions to provide internship opportunities.



#### BUILDING YOUR WORKFORCE

We provide businesses the tools needed to find and recruit talented students for internships and beyond.

#### FOR MORE INFO: info@VirginiaTOP.org

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of interns are still with their employer after their first year on the job.

Source: NACE



of students who receive a full-time job offer after an internship opportunity accept the job offer.

Source: NACE

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concern of Virginia businesses surveyed is access to necessary talent.

Source: Blueprint Virginia 2030 Virginia Chamber of <u>Commerce</u>

As Virginia employers continue to experience challenges in attracting and retaining a talented workforce, internships are a proven tool to bolster your organization's talent pipeline.

### WHAT BENEFITS DOES V-TOP PROVIDE YOUR BUSINESS?



Access to V-TOP's Staffing Agency and Matching Funds Program for small to midsize businesses.

Use of our Employer Toolkit and Internship Resource Video Series.

Outreach to students through the Internship Opportunities page.

Resources to help develop or grow an internship program at your organization.

Greater connections with higher education institutions and regional partners.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF PAID INTERNSHIPS

- Students that participate in a paid internship are more likely to receive a job offer at the end of their experience.
- Compensation can attract more candidates who are likely to become future employers.
- Paid internships provide equity of opportunity for all students seeking these experiences.
- Unpaid internships make is difficult for those who rely on compensation to participate in work-based learning.

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#### **STUDENT BENEFITS**

- Students apply coursework to the professional world.
- Students have potential employment opportunities post-graduation.
- Students receive class credit and/or compensation.
- Students explore career opportunities prior



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