

STRENGTHENING INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) bridges the gap between Virginia higher education institutions, their students, and businesses providing internship opportunities. Students are looking to enhance their learning experience and gain real-world knowledge that will translate into a job after graduation.



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 education institutions.



PROVIDING THE RIGHT RESOURCES

We give higher education institutions the vital tools to help send talented students to the businesses that need them.



CONNECTING TO INCREASE OPPORTUNITY

We help higher education institutions connect businesses and students to share internship opportunities much more efficiently.



BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

We encourage higher education institutions to collaborate with local businesses, which helps to build stronger community relationships.

FOR MORE INFO:
info@VirginiaTOP.org



VirginiaTOP.org



**VIRGINIA
TALENT +
OPPORTUNITY
PARTNERSHIP**

CREATING PATHWAYS TO PROFESSIONS

80%

of students who receive a job offer after an internship will accept the job offer.

Source: NACE

90%

of employers want new college graduate hires to have relevant work experience, especially work-based learning.

Source: NACE

THE TOP

concern of Virginia businesses surveyed is access to necessary talent.

Source: *Blueprint Virginia 2030*
Virginia Chamber of Commerce

As a Commonwealth, we must do more to find, invest in, and encourage students to live and work in Virginia after they graduate. That's where V-TOP helps: to better connect Virginia's business community with students who want to learn by doing, and have higher education institutions serve as a vital partner and catalyst in this process.

HOW DOES V-TOP BENEFIT HIGHER EDUCATION?

Internships prepares students while strengthening Virginia's talent pipeline and reinforcing coursework. Students contribute their talents and gain skills, while schools and employers collaborate to assist in securing internships. You should partner with V-TOP to:

- ▶ **Share your best practices with other Virginia institutions**
- ▶ **Gain access to readiness resources to improve your students' experience**
- ▶ **Increase collaboration with the business community to better position your student population for in-demand internship and work-based learning opportunities**
- ▶ **Connect academic coursework with current business needs to better support the future workforce and keep students in Virginia after graduation**

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