

WHAT IS AN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM?



The <u>National Association of Colleges and Employers</u> considers an internship as

"a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional setting. Internships give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields they are considering for career paths; and give employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent."

INTERNSHIPS BENEFIT YOUR ORGANIZATION IN MANY WAYS:

- Training students to support and contribute to the mission and goals of your organization;
- Having the opportunity to vet talent for an extended "interview" period;
- Developing a consistent pipeline of hirable entry-level candidates;
- Building your organization's image and brand on campus.





HOW TO CREATE AN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Successful internship programs have support from the top-down within an organization, not just a commitment by a few employees.

Define your goals & purpose:

- Do you want to convert graduating interns to full-time employees?
 Do you want to create an ambassador for my organization as interns return to campus after their internship?
- Do you need more staff for a specific project?
 Is there an area of expertise interns could bring to your organization that you do not currently have?
- Do you want to use the internship program as a focus group for products and services?





Aspects of an internship to consider:

- Substance of work, project goals, duties & responsibilities, paid vs. unpaid (be sure to **check state** & <u>federal labor laws</u>), full-time/part-time, location (in-person vs. remote), start and end dates, supervision & evaluation; all should be included in your job posting.
- Additional offerings assigned mentors, lunch & learn with management, program outings (baseball games, tours, dinners, museums, etc.);
- Liability coverage Comprehensive General Liability (CGL) policies typically cover student interns, but you should confirm with your insurance company.

Onboarding & program completion considerations:

- Hiring process what will it look like, who will be involved, and what is the timeline?
- Onboarding, training, and assignments should be planned to reflect your goals;
- End of the internship you may want to have the program end with a presentation or final report, along with evaluations (supervisors evaluating the students and students evaluating the program, click here for a sample). Additionally, your ability to provide return offers should be addressed in the planning stages.



Resources for hiring a Dartmouth intern:

- Connect with us on Handshake: Post internships, connect with our students through events and the platform's messaging system. By connecting with us, you also join our mailing list for recruiting opportunities.
- Participate in our **recruiting** program, designed to provide additional marketing, student outreach and support.
- Keep an eye out for upcoming inperson or virtual job & internship fairs (invitations sent via Handshake).
- Schedule a time to meet with our team to discuss your goals and recruiting strategy.

START YOUR TALENT PIPELINE TODAYI

Email us to find out more!

Anne Lyford, **Associate Director** of Employer Relations

David McKinley, **Assistant Director** of Employer Relations





