



VIRGINIA
**TALENT +
OPPORTUNITY
PARTNERSHIP**

CREATING PATHWAYS TO PROFESSIONS



Agenda

- ✓ **Background**
- ✓ **Purpose**
- ✓ **Goal**
- ✓ **V-TOP Grants**
 - **Internship Student Support Grant**

Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership

- **The Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP)** is a formally established collaboration between SCHEV, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, and the Virginia Business Higher Education Council. V-TOP is funded through the Commonwealth Innovative Internship Fund.
- In 2020 and 2021, V-TOP convened **six workgroups (over 200 members)** to identify areas of emphasis, deliverables, and a work plan to scale its efforts. Today, workgroups continue to emerge and support the initiative. These workgroups include members from public and private colleges and universities, executive agencies, non-profit organizations, and the business community.

Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership: Connecting Students to Work-Based Learning Statewide

V-TOP's Purpose is grounded in statute.

- **Grants to institutions to expand paid and credit-bearing** student internships and other work-based learning opportunities in collaboration with Virginia employers.
- **Statewide initiative to facilitate the readiness** of students, employers, and institutions of higher education to participate in internship and work-based learning.

Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership: Connecting Students to Work-Based Learning Statewide

Goal

The statewide V-TOP initiative is to retain students in the state after graduation to contribute to the goal that 70% of the adult population have a post-secondary credential by 2030, which will help ensure the availability of talent for companies.

Big Goal: All Virginia graduates will have a high-quality internship experience.

Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership Resources

Statewide initiative to facilitate the readiness of students, employers, and institutions to participate in internship and work-based learning (Va. Code § 23.1-903.4).

Student Readiness:

- Launched student career-readiness and internship toolkit modules (free, online resources)
- Secured proclamation by Governor Youngkin of July 28, 2022, as Virginia Intern Day

Employer Readiness

- Launched employer readiness modules (free, online resources)
- Awarded Regional Collaborative Grants to nine regions
- Procured staffing agency, iQuasar for small businesses
- Allocate matching funds to employers during internships

Institutional Readiness

- Awarded Vision Grants to eight institutions (\$25,000 each); awarded additional grants Developed a Federal Work-Study toolkit
- Award the first grants to institutions to transform Federal Work-Study into internships [allocated funds in the amount of \$630,000 for FY 2023 and \$930,000 for FY2024]
- Award three new grant opportunities for institutions to support internships and students
- Update professional development scholarship for career practitioners and graduate students

Institutional Internship Data Collection Support Grant

- To support eligible higher education institutions in gathering internship experience data from students whether for credit or not.
- This funding could be used to help
 - Purchase incentives to encourage students to report internship experiences.
 - Develop an internship-specific program or curriculum that will facilitate internship readiness of students.
 - Purchase platforms or resources that support institutions with internship data collection, tracking, and reporting methods.
 - Purchase or develop a comprehensive transcriptable record system of students' participation in an internship (inside or outside of the classroom).
- Full Instructions and more information can be found here:
<https://www.schev.edu/institutions/grants/commonwealth-innovative-internship-fund-and-program>

Description of Funding

Eligible Applicants: Virginia's 15 public four-year institutions of higher education

Submission: Each institution may submit one Letter of Interest.

- Letters of Interest are limited to three pages, not including the cover sheet and budget.
- Cover sheet **must include** name of the institution, name and contact information of the project director, and printed name, title, and signature or the authorized signer.

Narratives are limited to three pages:

- **Introduction:** Provide any background information you would like SCHEV to know, i.e., about your institution, about similar programs that could be leveraged, etc.
- **Body:** How this grant funding will help your institution gather baseline internship data.
- **Conclusion:** Key reason why your application should be funded.
- **Budget:** Provide a brief description of the planned expenditures. The budget will be accepted in Excel or Word.

Timeline Information

- **Award Amount:** Up to \$100,000.00
- **Length of Award:** 12 months, this is a one-time only request.
- **Deadline:** December 19, 2023, 11:59 p.m.
- **Estimated started date:** January 16, 2024
- **Narrative Progress Reports:** Progress reports are required and due 30 days after the end of the grant period.

Questions?



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