

“You can’t solve a problem on the same level that it was created. You have to rise above it to the next level.” ~ Albert Einstein

Did you know that up to 80% of a student’s internship/co-op experience can be transitioned on-line?

In response to COVID-19, many employers have delayed or even canceled their summer internship programs. Is your organization uncertain about the future? Before pulling the plug on your talent pipeline, why not consider an alternative to your traditional co-op/internship program?

Micro-Internships

Most internship opportunities are no more than a series of tasks and activities that a busy professional can outsource. Why not identify a few projects that have been sent to the back burner and allow students to work remotely on these short-term assignments?

According to Parker Dewey, the organization who pioneered the Micro-Internship concept, "traditional internship programs can be an expensive investment. One full-time, \$12-per-hour intern for 10 weeks equates to \$4,800 in payroll — along with the need for a workspace, housing or transportation stipend, and personnel to hire and manage them. Compare that to a micro-intern, who would likely cost \$200 to \$600 and would not require a desk or computer. Students receive a fixed fee, typically equating to \$15 to \$25 per hour, and are given between one week and one month to complete their project.”

To get started, beginning thinking about these points:

- Identify company needs
- Summarize the remote project in 5-6 sentences: assignments should include highly-specific tasks with clear expectations
- Establish goals for the project: define desired outcomes and due dates
- Approach: Understand parameters, does proposal align with end goals? Means of communication? Establish check-in points/milestones
- Completion: Final pitch or presentation of completed assignments/tasks

Interested in launching project-based internship opportunities? It is not too late to work with Wright State University’s College of Engineering and Computer Science to engage students in short term projects/gigs for the summer. For more information, please contact:

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