Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program

CSIIP

COMMONWEALTH STEM INDUSTRY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

2014 Mid-Atlantic Regional Space Grant Meeting
September 25, 2014

Virginia Space Grant Consortium

What is CSIIP?

CSIIP
COMMONWEALTH STEM INDUSTRY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- A Virginia Space Grant Consortium program funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- An online brokering system matching undergraduate STEM students to companies throughout Virginia that provide paid internship opportunities.
- Affords Virginia's industries with unprecedented access to qualified interns pursuing STEM-related careers.
- CSIIP is a conduit between budding STEM talent and an industry workface shortage.
- Each student's application is available to more than 150+ companies across Virginia.

STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

CSIIP's Goal: Keep STEM talent In Virginia!

How is it Funded?

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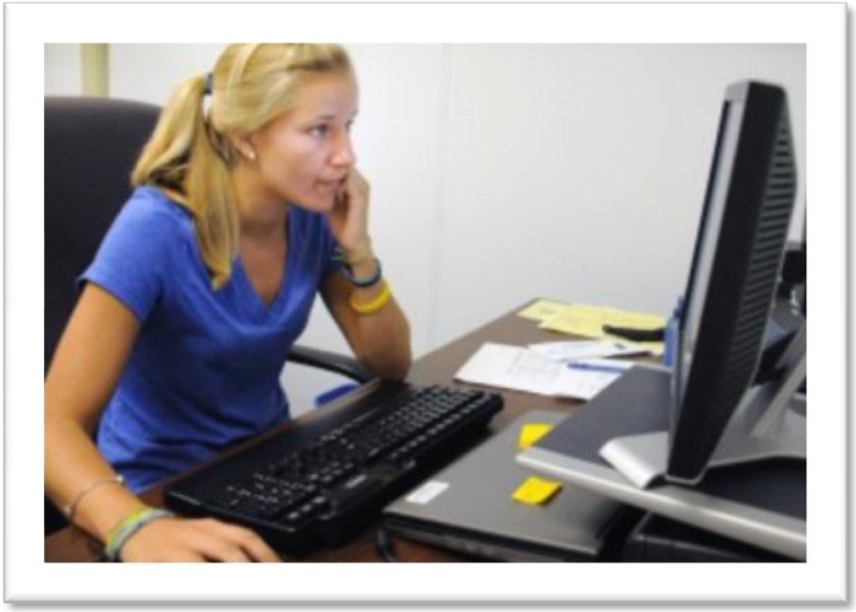
Funding in the Virginia biennial budget of $300K/year for the VSGC to implement, manage, and administer the program.

The online CSIIP system is free to use for students, companies, and colleges and universities.

Student Eligibility Requirements

- Must be at least 18 years of age and attending a Virginia university, college, or community college. Virginia residents attending accredited out-of-state colleges may also apply.
- Actively enrolled undergraduate students should be taking at least six (6) credit hours per semester and making demonstrated progress towards a STEM degree.
- Must have completed at least 30 or more post-secondary education credits and are at least at rising sophomore status prior to the internship. *Recent graduates are also eligible to participate.*
- Must be majoring in a STEM (science, technology, engineering or mathematics) field.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Must have a GPA of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale.



CSIIP Partners…

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- All ten of Virginia's regional technology councils
- Virginia Manufacturers Association
- Virginia's Society for Human Resource Management
- sySTEMic Solutions
- New College Institute
- American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia
- Institute for Advanced Learning and Research

Collaboration with all accredited Virginia colleges, universities, and community colleges.

Support from Governor McDonnell's office, including Virginia Secretaries of Commerce and Trade, Education, and Technology

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2013 - 2014

Pilot year:

- Placed 53 interns
- With 29 companies

2013 - 2014:

- Placed 76 interns
- With 39 companies

2014 – 2015

- 150 companies have registered!
- New partnerships continue to be formed.

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CSIIP Web Forums

- VSGC partnered with the IALR and NASA to produce 8 webcasts available at csiip.org. *Please use these!*
- Overall Theme: "Building Skills and Exploring Workforce Opportunities in STEM": Titles include:
  - Pursuing STEM Careers — Transitioning from College to the Workforce
  - Interviewing and Sealing the Deal
  - Advanced Science and Technology Careers in Manufacturing
  - NASA and Aerospace Career Pathways i
  - Pathways to Success: Your Guide to Virginia Space Grant Consortium Scholarships, Internships, and More
  - Linking Your Future to Virginia Emerging Economic Sectors
  - Making A Good First Impression: The Impact of Social Media
  - Biotechnology Business and Career Opportunities in Virginia

Student Benefits for Participation:

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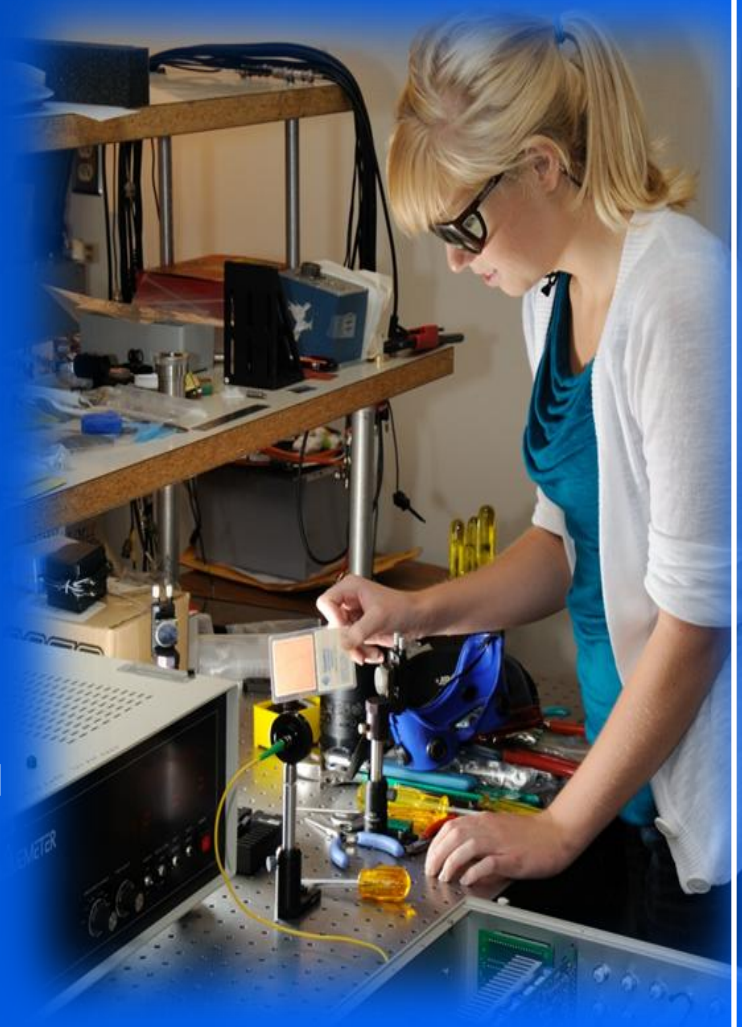
- Upon completion of their internship, students receive a Certificate of Completion signed by the Governor.
- Press releases are sent to student's home-town newspapers, listing the student and hiring organization, describing work the student is doing.
- Access to free and informative webinars posted on the CSIIP. http://csiip.spacegrant.org/events
- A *free*, convenient one-application process to reach 150+ companies across Virginia.
- Ability to search for internship opportunities via a distance from any specified address.
- CSIIP applications roll over for future years – Students don't have to reapply each year.
- Ability to check company/organization profiles and indicate an interest in a specific organization or interest in a specific internship opportunity.
- Opportunity for excellent hands-on experience related to their field of study.



Company Benefits for Participation:

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- Participating companies/organizations making a student placement receive a plaque from the VSGC that is also signed by the Governor
- Free PR through the CSIIP:
  - A link to a company's/organization's website is added on CSIIP's website. This allows all VA college/university students to see the company's/organization's profile and to know they offer internships.
  - Student hometown news releases are prepared and distributed by the VSGC, naming the hiring company/organization and the student, along with a brief description of the internship.
  - Via VSGC state-wide and national briefings, participating companies/organizations are noted.
  - Via delegate & Governor's Office queries, visibility is provided at the state legislature level.

Company Benefits for Participation: (continued)

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- Free access to CSIIP student database.
  - All students are already prescreened for eligibility.
  - Easy to use CSIIP provided search tool (drop-down boxes & Boolean word search). Saved Search Criteria.
  - **Free student search assistance from VSGC.**
- Student applications include everything a company/organization needs to make a decision: Student contact info, GPA, writing sample, resume, 2 letters of reference, student transcripts, etc.
- Companies/organization's, at their option, make candidate selections, contact students, and directly hire interns. There is no obligation to hire.
- CSIIP is also open to graduating seniors. Therefore it offers the ability to check out potential hires before making a permanent hire commitment.

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Interest from Other States

- Briefed STEM Coordinator for the NY General Assembly and the New York University System.
- Briefed North Carolina University System. NC has followed up requested State funds.
- Talked with the California Department of Education.
- Consulted/collaborated with the Minnesota Space Grant Consortium which has a very similar program (Shared lessons learned).
- CSIIP was briefed at the National Professional Science Master's Association Conference.