LINKED LEARNING® ALLIANCE

Quality Internship Framework

Productive, rewarding internships have much in common with work experiences that attract, retain, and engage people in careers to the benefit of employers and entire industries. This framework builds on insights from hundreds of Linked Learning pathways that feature work-based learning in partnership with local employers. Third-party research shows that Linked Learning students are more likely than peers in traditional schooling to graduate on time, earn high-value credits, enroll and persist in college, and acquire career-ready skills, behaviors, and mindsets.

Special considerations: Like all temporary work arrangements, internships call for projects designed for limited-time engagement and appropriate measures for confidentiality regarding sensitive or proprietary information.



STRONG INTERNSHIP CANDIDATES

- Interns selected from a diverse pool of students
- Students' educational interests relate to tasks and field of internship

MUTUALLY VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

Projects/duties build interns' knowledge, skills and networks	Work products/ services advance employer goals	Interns are eligible and evaluated as prospective entry-level hires

SUPPORTIVE WORK CULTURE

Inclusive practices make interns part of the team	Interns receive coaching by school and employer advisor	Steady communication supported by clear channels and guidance

EQUITABLE LABOR CONDITIONS

Interns are paid for work via stipend or hourly minimum wage	Work schedules/ locations allow for school attendance and travel constraints	Technology and other tools necessary for work are provided by employer



IMPROVED TALENT PIPELINE

- School-employer collaboration on internship structure and tasks
- Input and feedback on student preparation, value of experience