

School Leaders for America, Inc. Survey for the Proposed STEM Cooperative Education and Internship Program

OVERVIEW

Seven of the country's major space contractors have a significant presence in Colorado. These companies contract with the Department of Defense for procuring, placing, and managing national space assets. They also provide instrumentation and ground control services for manned and unmanned spacecraft to NASA and other civilian agencies.

VALIDATING THE NEED

This survey assesses the need and applicability of the services proposed for the STEM COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM. The Program is designed to provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) college seniors and graduate students with paid on the job work experience before they graduate. **Cooperative education** (also known as "co-op") and **Internship** are terms that define providing work experience that readies students for the world of work in the Space and Technology Industries located in Colorado.

Is there a need for the program? Please tell us.

The following is a series of questions to help validate the needs and services for STEM students:

Survey Questions (Mark an "X" on the appropriate line):

1. Does your company currently hire interns or co-op students?

Yes, we do hire interns or co-op students. _____

No, we do not hire interns or co-op students. _____

I don't know. _____

2. Do you think the knowledge enrichment STEM work experience, provides a better opportunity to succeed in today's corporate environment?

Yes, work experience is necessary. _____

No, work experience is not necessary. _____

I don't know. _____

3. Would your company contract with a Colorado based non-profit education corporation that connects college seniors and graduate students with employers and educators for an internship or cooperative education program?

Yes, we would contract. _____

No, we would not contract. _____

I don't know. _____

4. Do you think there is a need for a cooperative education or internship program that identifies diverse STEM populations of women and minorities?

- Yes, I strongly agree. _____
- Yes, I agree. _____
- No, I don't agree _____

5. Would your company contract for a cooperative education or internship program that identifies diverse populations of college seniors and graduate students to work at your facility?

- Yes, we would contract. _____
- No, we would not contract. _____
- I don't know, but I'll find out. _____

6. Placements are made from the prescreened applicant pool. These students have received appropriate security clearances and screenings well in advance of placement. Would your company contract to provide a college senior or graduate student a paid opportunity to work in your facility in a cooperative education or intern program?

- Yes, we would contract. _____
- No, we would not contract. _____
- I don't know, but I'll find out. _____

7. The Institute's pool of applicants is available for work assignments year round. Would your facility contract for students with **paid work assignments** for a 3 to 6 month period of time?

- Would contract for 3 months. _____
- Would contract for 6 months. _____
- Would contract but cannot provide a length of time. _____
- Would not contract. _____
- Don't know, but I'll find out. _____

8. Would your company contract with the Institute to help you train coaches and mentors for the students?

- Yes, we would contract. _____
- No, we would do our own training. _____
- No, we do not think coaches or mentors are needed. _____
- Don't know, but I'll find out. _____

9. It is estimated that the annual cost to operate a cooperative education and internship program is approximately \$600,000.00 dollars. This includes recruiting, screening, coaching and mentoring for a pool of 150 to 200 students sourcing minority and women candidates in engineering, technology, math and science. Would your organization be willing to donate \$3,000 per student to support of this program?

Yes, we would help in the initial funding of the project. _____

No, it is not something we would contribute to. _____

Don't know, but I'll find out. _____

10. The flexible year-round schedule permits entry to the program and work to start at any time to meet the employer's needs.

We would contract to employ students on a flexible schedule. _____

We are only interested in contracting for summer _____

No preference. _____

For the following statements about the Cooperative Education or Internship program, please tell me if you agree or disagree:

11. The educational value of the experience from a co-op or intern assignment, not the pay, benefits, or location, are controlling factors in determining the suitability of a student's assignment.

Strongly agree _____

Agree _____

Disagree _____

Strongly disagree _____

Don't know _____

12. Do you agree that there is a need for this new STEM Program to operate a **premier** college cooperative education and internship program for the Space and Technology Industry?

Strong need _____

Some need _____

No need _____

Don't know _____

SURVEY PARTICIPANT STATISTICS

My name is: _____

My position: _____

E-mail: _____

I am involved in hiring at my company.

Yes _____

No _____

I am involved in contracting at my company.

Yes _____

No _____

I would be involved in making decisions about this program.

Yes _____

No _____

I am willing to help identify someone at my company for this program to contact.

Yes _____

No _____

Name Position

Phone number

The STEM COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM is operated by the educational leadership corporation School Leaders for America, a 501 (c) (3) public education corporation. The Corporation has been providing comprehensive experiential career development, in-service training, mentoring and coaching since 2003.

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