

# Subsidized, Paid Internships for RI College Students, Recent RI College Graduates and Employers

Terms and Conditions of RI Work Immersion Program  
Fiscal Year 2015: July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

Under the RI Work Immersion Program, the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) provides partial wage reimbursements to RI employers that provide internships to college students and recent college graduates in RI.

## Who is eligible to participate?

- ❖ Any individual at least 18 years of age who:
  - is currently matriculated in a college or university located in Rhode Island; or
  - graduated from a college or university located in Rhode Island in the last six months
- ❖ Any employer (for-profit, not-for-profit, or public sector) that is doing business in RI

## What activities are eligible for reimbursement?

- ❖ In order for a paid internship to qualify for reimbursement from the RI Work Immersion Program, the activity must:
  - provide the student with a meaningful learning opportunity<sup>1</sup>
  - increase the employability of the student
  - offer the student 45-400 hours of paid employment
  - pay an hourly wage equal to or greater than the RI minimum wage
  - assist the employer by preparing individuals for potential employment<sup>2</sup>

## How does an employer obtain reimbursement for providing a paid internship to a student?

- ❖ The GWB will reimburse an employer for 50% of wages paid (maximum wage rate = \$20/hour) for an eligible internship of 45-400 hours of work
- ❖ In the event that an employer hires and retains the student for 12 weeks beyond the completion of the internship, the GWB will reimburse the wages paid during the internship by an additional 25%
- ❖ To obtain reimbursement, the employer must:
  - *Before the internship:* Obtain pre-approval from the GWB. Pre-approval will ordinarily be granted within two weeks of receipt of the pre-approval form.
  - *After the internship:*
    - submit an evaluation form completed by the employer, the college student or recent graduate, and the college student or recent graduate's school to the GWB; and
    - submit relevant wage records to the GWB

## How can an employer find a student for an internship?

Employers that are interested in providing an internship to a college student or recent college graduate may [contact the career center of any college or university in Rhode Island](#), or to go to: <https://bRIdge.jobs>.

For more information about the RI Work Immersion Program and the pre-approval form, go to [www.gwb.ri.gov/internships.htm](http://www.gwb.ri.gov/internships.htm) or contact the Governor's Workforce Board at 401-462-8864.

<sup>1</sup> Internships that have been approved for academic credit by the student or recent graduate's college or university automatically qualify as a "meaningful learning opportunity." Non-credit internships may also qualify as a "meaningful learning opportunity."

<sup>2</sup> Employers are not obligated to hire students upon completion of the internship