# Building a Local, Diverse Talent Pipeline Through Work-Based Learning:

# **A Framework for Employers**

When companies hire local, diverse talent, their businesses thrive, our residents thrive, and our local economy thrives. Engaging youth (typically aged 16-24 years old) in high quality work-based learning opportunities gives employers a direct recruiting line of new, diverse, local talent. Employers can use this framework to understand which work-based learning opportunities align with your desired goals and capacity to engage. For more information on good-fit partners ready to partner with you on this opportunity, refer to the Hire Local DC Call to Action Resource.

Career Launch O NAMENT O NAMEN

TIME. STAFFING. AND MONEY INVESTMENT













Offer youth people (typically high school-aged) brief opportunities (usually 1-4 hours in length) to learn about a variety of professions, fields, companies, and their postsecondary interests.

# TIME, STAFFING, AND MONEY INVESTMENT:

Minimal time commitment from employees with no budgeted expenditures.

## **RETURN ON INVESTMENT:**

Potential pay off in the long-term by sparking interest in your profession/field/company among young people.

## **EXAMPLES:**

- Speak at events
- Host job shadowing/field trips/ company tours
- Participate in career fairs

Provide paid, short-term (usually 1 month - 1 year and up to 400 hours) work experiences for young people (typically high school or college-aged) to build employability skills and first-hand knowledge of your profession and company.

# TIME, STAFFING, AND MONEY INVESTMENT:

Stipends for interns (may be covered by government funds), moderate time commitment from supervisors, little to no budgeted expenditures.

# **RETURN ON INVESTMENT:**

Pays off in the medium + long-term by building interest and employability skills in young people.

# **EXAMPLES:**

- Host Interns
- Host Pre-Apprentices

Hire young people (typically high school or college-aged) to work while getting on-the-job training, aligned classroom experience, and postsecondary credit/industry certification (usually 1-3 years and 2,000 hours). Participants are prepared to be competitive for an entry-level full-time position with their employer.

## TIME, STAFFING, AND MONEY INVESTMENT:

Participant wages, supervisor and staff time and budgeted expenditures, training costs, wrap-around support. Participants work part-time as they accrue portable postsecondary credit and credentials.

## **RETURN ON INVESTMENT:**

Pays off immediately by being able to hire qualified talent to a full-time role at the culmination of the program.

# **EXAMPLES:**

- Hire apprentices
- Partner with Training to Job Programs

