

Update on the Innovative Internship Fund and Program

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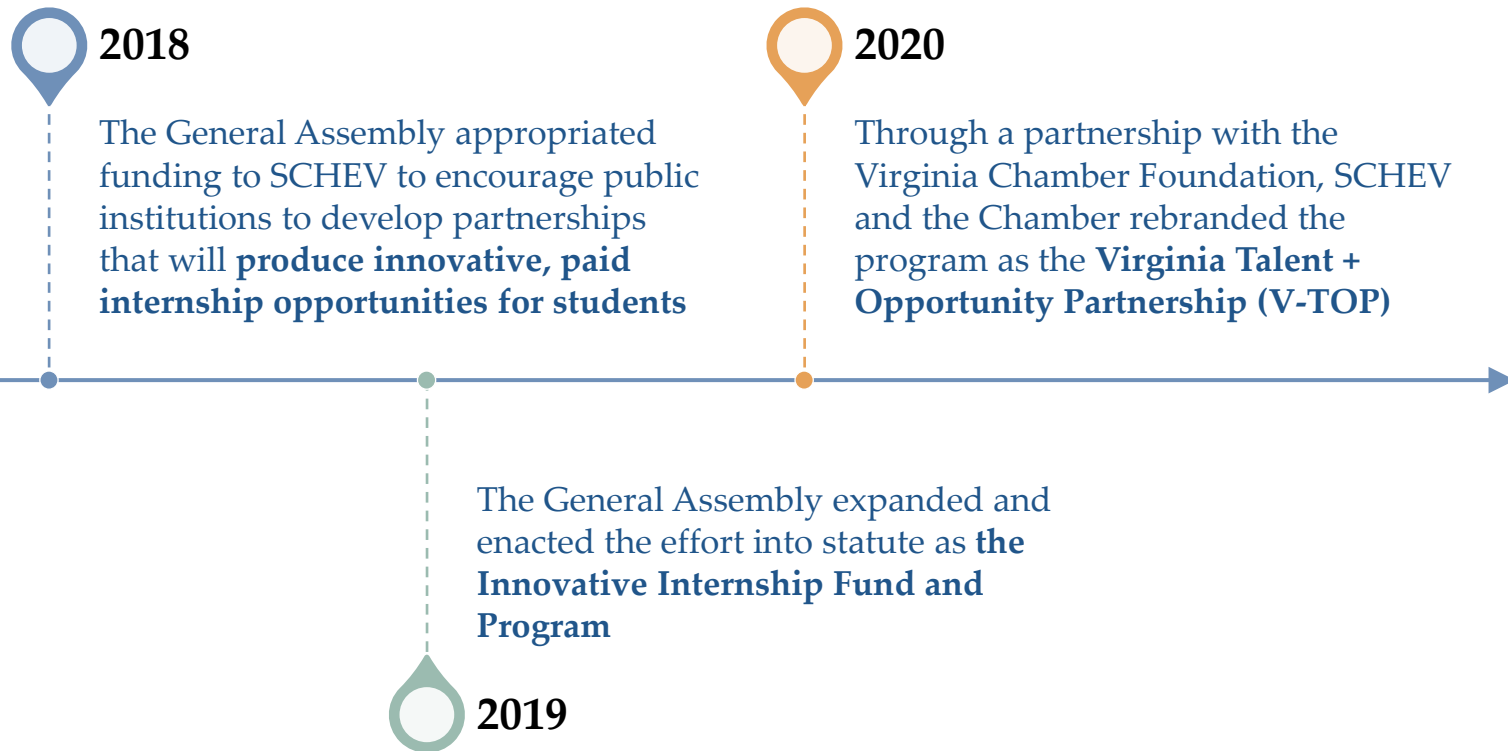
January 9, 2023

Meeting of the K-12 Education and Higher Education Subcommittees
of the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee



STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA

Development of the Program



§ 23.1-903.4. Innovative Internship Fund & Program

B. ... The purpose of the Program is to **expand paid or credit-bearing student internship and other work-based learning opportunities in collaboration with Virginia employers.** The Program comprises institutional grants and a statewide initiative to facilitate the readiness of students, employers, and institutions of higher education to participate in internship and other work-based learning opportunities.

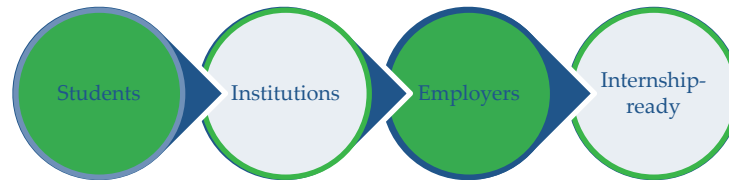
Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP)



- The Virginia Talent + Opportunity Partnership (V-TOP) is a formally-established collaboration between SCHEV and the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. V-TOP is funded through the Commonwealth Innovative Internship Fund (\$5M in FY2023 and \$12M in FY2024).
- In 2020 and 2021, V-TOP convened six workgroups (over 200 members) to identify areas of emphasis, deliverables and a work plan to scale its efforts. Today, workgroups continue to emerge and support the initiative. These workgroups include members from public and private colleges and universities, executive agencies, non-profit organizations and the business community.
- The Virginia Chamber Foundation maintains externally the V-TOP website (<https://virginiatop.org>), a freestanding online resource for students, employers and institutions of higher education.

Goals of V-TOP

- ❑ Distinguish the Commonwealth as the leading state for higher education and talent pathways.
- ❑ Have the most internship-ready students, employers and institutions of higher education.



- ❑ Ensure that every student enrolled at a Virginia institution of higher education has an opportunity to graduate with a paid, employment-based, authentic, applied learning experience (goal drafted by a workgroup of the Council of Presidents).

100,000 new internship slots by 2033

Milestones

Through 2022

- Awarded Regional Collaborative Grants to partnerships in six regions (up to \$250,000 over two years)
- Awarded Vision Grants to eight institutions [seven public and one private] (\$25,000 each)
- Secured proclamation by Governor Youngkin of July 28, 2022, as Virginia Intern Day (first such proclamation in Virginia)
- Hired two new staff dedicated to V-TOP
- Launched employer readiness modules: “Developing an Internship Program” (free online modules on the V-TOP website)
- Launched student career-readiness modules: “Developing Career Readiness Skills” (free online modules on the V-TOP website)

Milestones

Through 2022 (con't)

- Procured a staffing agency to assist small employers
- Procured an external evaluator
- Developed a toolkit to assist with transforming Federal Work-Study (FWS) jobs into internships
- Coordinated with the Council of Presidents on a data governance workgroup

Timeline for 2023

- Establish a course of action for the Council of Presidents Workgroup on Data Governance
- In consultation with the external evaluator, implement the evaluation plan, including establishing baseline data and setting target outcomes
- Identify and award vision grants to ten additional institutions (allocated \$250,000)
- Identify and award grant funds to additional regional collaboratives (6 of 9 regions are currently funded at up to \$125,000 per year)
- Award the first grants to institutions for transforming Federal Work-Study into internships (\$630,000 in FY2023 and an estimated \$930,000 in FY2024)
- Allocate matching funds to employers (summer internships) [Year One – pilot ~500 interns]
- Use staffing agency services for small businesses
- Facilitate and celebrate the second Virginia Intern Day
- Complete a statewide outreach and awareness plan

Timeline for 2024 and Beyond

By June 2026:

- Create 21,500 new internship slots, including 5,000 FWS jobs transformed into internships

By June 2033:

- Create and sustain 100,000 new internship slots, including 18,000 transformed FWS jobs

Summary

Statewide initiative to facilitate the readiness of students, employers and institutions

Student Readiness:

- Launched student career-readiness modules (free, online resources)
- Secured proclamation by Governor Youngkin of July 28, 2022, as Virginia Intern Day

Employer Readiness:

- Launched employer readiness modules (free, online resources)
- Awarded Regional Collaborative Grants to six regions (up to \$250,000 over two years); award grants to three remaining regions (in progress)
- Procured staffing agency (for small businesses)
- Allocate the matching funds to employers during summer internships [Year One – pilot ~500 interns] (in progress)

Institutional Readiness:

- Awarded Vision Grants to eight institutions (\$25,000 each); award additional grants (in progress)
- Establish a course of action for the Council of Presidents Workgroup on Data Governance (in progress)
- Award the first grants to institutions to transform Federal Work-Study into internships [allocated funds in the amount of \$630,000 for FY 2023 and \$930,000 for FY 2024] (in progress)