

# NRV EXPERIENCE

VIRGINIA'S

NEW  
RIVER  
VALLEY

The NRV Experience is a seven-week-long summer curriculum designed to support employer internship programs by helping their interns grow professionally while also experiencing the full benefits of living and working in Virginia's New River Valley.

Why is the NRV Experience important? Talent attraction and retention is a critical factor in supporting the four main industries in Virginia's New River Valley: Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Unmanned Systems, and Food Processing & Agribusiness.

According to Virginia Tech's *First Destination After Graduation* report on 2017-2018 graduates, **28%** of students stated they chose their first job because they worked/volunteered with that employer during college and another **14%** of students said their first job resulted from networking.

## PROGRAM GOALS

- Increase the number of young professionals living and working in the NRV post-graduation
- Expose participants to the cultural, recreational, and outdoor amenities available in the NRV
- Improve intern communication and leadership skills through professional development training
- Engage employers in building an effective talent pipeline in the NRV's Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Unmanned Systems, and Food Processing & Agribusiness industries
- Increase the number of quality internships and experiential learning opportunities in the NRV

## EMPLOYER BENEFITS

- Learn how to get the most from your internship programs
- Reach more intern candidates with our on-campus engagement and marketing strategies
- Increase the probability of retaining interns as full-time professionals post-graduation
- Help interns develop leadership skills and networking abilities to launch their careers



Scan this QR code to watch video about the NRV Experience featuring interviews with interns from the 2020 cohort.

# COST INCLUDES

- **Employer Orientation:** Welcome session with best practices, what to expect from the program, and more.
- **Kick-Off Event:** Professional development workshop with a focus on communication, networking, and leadership skills.
- **Five Half-Day Excursions:** Activities to showcase the cultural, recreational, and outdoor amenities in each of the NRV communities. Features professional development training.
- **Wrap-Up Event:** Graduation ceremony and networking session with employers and area young professionals.

# COST PER INTERN

Onward NRV Investor

**\$100**

Non-Investor

(Must be a targeted industry company in the NRV)

**\$250**

# EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY

- Current Onward New River Valley Investors
- Non-Onward NRV Investor companies located in the New River Valley that are categorized as one of Onward NRV's targeted industries: Information Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Unmanned Systems, and Food Processing & Agribusiness

NRV COMMUNITY EXCURSIONS



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES



# INTERN ELIGIBILITY

- College students currently enrolled in an Associate, Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D. program
- Students in an internship, co-op, or apprenticeship with a qualified employer in the New River Valley
- Students at least 18 years old
- Students with summer housing in the area & transportation available

# HOW TO APPLY

Visit [TheNRV.org/nrvexperience](https://www.onwardnrv.org/nrvexperience). Scroll down to the bottom of the page. Click the **EMPLOYER APPLICATION** button in the yellow divider. Complete the form.



*"I was able to build a lot of relationships and also have fun with all the events that were put on [throughout the program]. I feel so lucky to have had the chance to be in the NRV Experience."*

-Ana, Celanese Intern, NRV Experience 2020 Participant



For more information about the NRV Experience, contact:  
James Cabler, Onward NRV Director of Business Engagement  
[james@onwardnrv.org](mailto:james@onwardnrv.org) | 540-267-0007