

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 2021-2022 graduates, **68%** of respondents had some type of career-related experience during college. Additionally, **17%** of respondents said their first job resulted from networking and **11%** of the respondents stated their first job resulted from working or volunteering with their employer in the past.

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 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 2022 cohort.

COST INCLUDES

- **Employer Orientation:** Welcome session with best practices, what to expect from the program, and more.
- **Kick-Off Event:** Professional development workshop that can include a focus on communication, networking, and leadership skills.
- **Weekly Professional Development Trainings:** Presentations and discussions that may consist of topics such as emotional intelligence, problem solving, and communication.
- **Five Half-Day Excursions:** Activities to showcase the cultural, recreational, and outdoor amenities in each of the NRV communities.
- **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 NRV Investors
- Non-Onward NRV Investor companies located in the region 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. Scroll to the yellow divider. Click the **EMPLOYER APPLICATION** button in the middle. 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:
Samantha Livesay, Director of Business Engagement
samantha@onwardnrv.org | 540-267-0007