



Provide High School Students with a Work Based Learning Internship (WBLI)

Building off **Work Based Learning Experiences (WBLEs)**, where students toured your workplace and heard from your team on their career experiences, DC3C is ready to launch **Work Based Learning Internship (WBLI)**, a week-long, mini-internship experience for students with disabilities.

What: Provide five students with a **one-week mini-internship in Spring 2024 for high school students with disabilities**, aligned to students' spring break that features:

- A mini-work project that interns can complete in one week;
- Job shadowing opportunities with key team members;
- Networking opportunities with key team members; and
- Check-in and feedback opportunities where interns can see management expectations.



Why: Direct workplace experience provides students with the **knowledge and skills to connect today's school experiences to tomorrow's career opportunities and build career aspirations.**

How: Businesses receive support from the **DC Special Education Cooperative (Co-op)** to set up an effective WBLI including:

- Placement of five students interested in your industry;
- Tailored internship design and schedule support;
- Support on how to provide an exit interview and evaluation for students; and
- Training for team members on disability awareness.

Students will have already completed a [Work Based Learning Experience](#) and Career Readiness and Skill Building prerequisites. The Co-op will provide students with a stipend for their internship and, where appropriate, work-appropriate attire.

Bottom line: All students with disabilities should graduate high school prepared for 3C's: careers, college, and community. Your partnership can inspire students to achieve their 3C's.

In survey data from DC students with disabilities, students are interested in careers in media and arts, health, trade, culinary careers, IT, creative industries, sports, and government.

WBLI Internship Components

<p><u>Professionalism of the Workplace</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">–Onboarding meeting to discuss the expectations and norms for the mini-internship.–One to two check-ins with the supervisor to provide mentorship and feedback and answer questions.–End-of-week close out meeting to review work, provide feedback, and answer final questions.	<p><u>Mini-Work Project and Independent Work Time</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">–The majority of the internship should be in completing a mini-work project and individual assignments.–Depending on the project, the time should be structured into sub-tasks for the intern to complete.	<p><u>Job Shadowing and Networking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">–Provide opportunities for interns to shadow you or other team members to see their work in action and attend key internal and external meetings.–Invite a co-worker or another professional within your field to connect with your interns.
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Interested in partnering? Complete this [form](#) to connect.