



2017 FocusMaine Intern Experience // A pilot initiative in summer 2017

In Maine, one company isn't enough to convince the most ambitious college students to live and work here when they graduate. It takes a village of interconnected employers and partners to demonstrate the economic vibrancy and career opportunity that young people desire. We believe that if interns across the state feel more connected to each other and our communities, they will be more compelled to pursue careers here.

In summer 2017 FocusMaine is piloting a series of events and activities under the banner FocusMaine Intern Experience. Participating interns will be invited to professional and social networking events and offered variety of volunteer and recreational opportunities.

To ensure that all interns in the pilot have an equally outstanding internship experience, we ask that participating companies adhere to a high-level set of internship standards (see following page).

Join the network

If you are a Maine organization offering one or more paid internships in summer of 2017, we invite you to join our pilot initiative. Not only will your interns benefit from the experience, but your company will contribute to the betterment of the Maine economy, help grow Maine's talent pool, and associate your business with other top tier companies in the state.

More than 200 interns will kick off the summer at a reception on June 13 at Portland Ocean Gateway. This event will give interns the opportunity to see the breadth of economic activity in Maine beyond their individual employers.

FocusMaine's long-term goal is to evolve the summer pilot into a valuable networking and recruiting tool for your business. Your success attracting and retaining the talent you need to grow your business aids the collective growth prosperity of our State.

Next step

If you would like to enroll your summer intern(s) in the 2017 summer pilot, please contact FocusMaineInterns@gmail.com, and provide the following information:

- Business name and physical address
- Business website
- Intern manager or coordinator name
- Intern manager or coordinator email and phone number
- Number of paid interns expected in 2017

Thank you for your interest. We look forward hearing from you!



FocusMaine Internship Standards

- Compensate the intern at least at the required State or local minimum wage
- Provide challenging, project-based work assignment where the intern can apply knowledge gained in the classroom
- Project must have clearly defined objectives and learning goals which are transferable to entry level knowledge work
- Provide adequate support and supervision, as well as regular check-ins to track progress toward goals and address challenges; provide appropriate training on business systems, processes, and procedures
- Offer orientation to both the intern and manager/mentor so expectations are clear; orientation may range from a structured introduction to the role to a full day immersion into your organization and intern program as appropriate
- Provide opportunities for the intern to showcase and defend their work through presentations, posters, or exhibitions
- Provide the intern with professional development and social networking opportunities, either your own or through the FocusMaine Intern Experience
- Conduct exit interview or survey to gather feedback and ensure continuous program improvement
- Comply with institutional academic requirements to whatever extent is reasonable for interns seeking academic credit for their experience

About FocusMaine

Our purpose is to strengthen and revitalize opportunity and prosperity in Maine by accelerating the creation of quality jobs within a few select, traded sectors that have high growth potential, based on global growth projections and Maine's competitive advantages in those sectors. We also seek to develop a set of strategies to foster, grow and attract knowledge professionals and entrepreneurs, which could have wide-ranging benefits for the state if Maine could establish a modern knowledge economy. Learn more at focusmaine.org.

FocusMaine Intern Experience cofounding employers and nonprofit partners include GMRI IDEXX, LLBean, MaineHealth, MedRhythms, Tyler Technologies, Unum, and WEX. Nonprofit partners include Innovate for Maine, Project Login, and SHRM.