## **FOCUSMAINE**

## CATALYZING JOBS WHERE MAINE'S ASSETS MEET GLOBAL TRENDS

With summer around the corner, post-secondary students across Maine are considering their summer plans for work, internships or other opportunities. This year, however, looks very different. In Maine, and across the country, businesses are rethinking how they engage interns and how they build their talent pipeline while retaining and retraining their current workforce. The current context demands that we reposition the traditional summer internship into a virtual experience that can have the same transformational career opportunity.

With our terrific partner, <u>Educate Maine</u>, and with the support of Maine businesses and Maine's universities and colleges, FocusMaine is dedicated to cultivating Maine's talented workforce by focusing on our signature sectors to promote Maine's competitive opportunities and train, attract and retain workers.

The Focus Maine Internship Experience is a critical part of this goal.

In light of our new circumstances, we're making a few changes to help employers and future employees connect:

- We're opening the program up to all Maine college students, enrolled in Maine or elsewhere;
- We're providing tons of online content that will help Maine students connect with Maine employers, build their resumes, and earn microcredentials;
- We're focusing content on Leadership Acumen, Inclusion and Diversity,
  Maine Industry Exploration, and Early Career Development and
  Networking, and our work.





Why do we think this kind of encounter and opportunity remains important? Our data shows that interns who participate in the <u>FocusMaine Internship Experience</u> are more likely to want to pursue a career in Maine and are more interested in pursuing a career with their internship provider. With or without a pandemic, Maine will continue to need the talent and skills to sustain our economy.



We're kicking off the program on May 19 with a <u>panel discussion</u> of Maine students who have forged their own career development path. Share this email with a student who might be interested and encourage them to <u>sign up here</u>. FMIE has vibrant <u>Linked In</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> accounts to stay connected.

Wherever you are, we wish you a healthy summer, with time to recharge, learn and grow.

Kimberly Hamilton

President, Focus Maine



