EYE | Educating Youth Through Employment

The Northern Virginia EYE Program



Make a significant, positive impact by providing young workers with the skills and training they need to be successful in tomorrow's workforce.



WHAT IS THE EYE PROGRAM?

Employment Specialists recruit, screen and match young workers ages 18-21 with professional opportunities in the private sector and other area businesses. These young workers are also required to attend intensive training workshops before and during their work experiences and are provided with employment guidance throughout the summer.

The SkillSource Group, Inc., in coordination with Fairfax County Department of Family Services, has successfully implemented this employerdriven summer employment initiative since 2006.

HOW CAN MY BUSINESS PARTICIPATE?

Hire

Provide a tax-deductible payment of \$600 to support the program's operations including recruitment and screening of a young worker specifically matched to your organization, ten hours of workshop training, ongoing assistance from Employment Specialists, and an EYE Awards Ceremony for employers, young workers and their parents.

After interviewing the selected individual, hire a young worker with an hourly wage of no less than \$7.25 per hour for up to eight weeks.

✓ Sponsor

If you cannot hire an EYE participant for the summer, sponsor one to work in a professional environment by providing a tax-deductible sponsorship payment of \$2,750 to cover the \$600 program operation costs and a young worker's salary during their employment experience.

Sponsors receive updates on how the young worker they have sponsored is doing and also are honored at the Annual EYE Awards Ceremony.

Contribute

Not able to hire or sponsor but still want to contribute to the EYE Program? Provide a tax-deductible contribution of any amount.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO MY COMPANY?

✓ Increase your market visibility

By contributing to a young worker's development at an early age and highlighting your company now, the possibility increases that they will be one of your company's future successful employees.

✓ Save time, resources, and business costs

Marketing for employees takes a lot of investment away from your bottom line. Employers who participate in the EYE Program conduct interviews with young workers who have already been recruited, pre-screened, and prepared for a summer employment opportunity.

Enhance your reputation as a socially responsible organization

In today's economy, jobs are especially hard to come by for young adults. Teen employment opportunities have dropped drastically as increasing numbers of mature workers are returning to the workforce. You have the opportunity to be recognized as a company that offers young workers their first positive employment experience as a step to becoming successful future workers.

WHAT TOPICS DO THE WORKSHOPS COVER?

The EYE workshops help young workers expand their understanding of what it takes to be successful in the workplace. *Topic include:*

- Appropriate and professional behavior
- Job readiness skills and positive work habits
- Career exploration, including high demand industries
- Personal financial management
- Networking and resume building
- Benefits of higher education and certifications

WHAT TYPES OF JOBS CAN EYE PARTICIPANTS DO?

Past participants in the EYE Program have worked as an administrative assistant, electrician's assistant, computer lab /IT assistant, social media liaison, event planning assistant, among many other pre-professional opportunities. *SkillSource* only requires a meaningful employment experience for each young worker that pays at least the federal minimum wage.

WHAT OTHER SUPPORT DOES SKILLSOURCE PROVIDE?

Employment Specialists will provide ongoing support and assistance during the EYE Program through periodic contact with both the employers and young workers. Our Employment Specialists contact each employer and young worker on a regular basis throughout the program to help ensure that both have a successful, positive experience.

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization EIN 30-0129320. Additional information can be obtained by visiting our website at www.myskillsource.org or by contacting us at info@myskillsource.org or 703.752.1606.





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