

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CareerSource Tampa Bay kicks-off Summer Job Connection 2020

~Online applications are now being accepted~

~More than 1,500 paid summer internships are available~

TAMPA, FL – CareerSource Tampa Bay (CSTB) is inviting Hillsborough County youth ages 16 to 24 to participate in a summer youth employment program. The **2020 Summer Job Connection program** will provide part-time paid work-experience for more than 1,500 Hillsborough County youth that meet eligibility requirements.

Participants will be provided a six-week paid work experience opportunity in a targeted industry. Youth participating in the program will be paid \$11.00 per hour and work a maximum of 24-hours per week. The program will run from June 15, 2020 to July 24, 2020.

A total of 560 paid work-experience youth participated in the program during the summer of 2019. More than 100 employers signed up for the program including the Hillsborough County School District, Hillsborough County's largest employer. Last year, CSTB utilized Temporary Assistance for Needy Families' funding combined with additional support received from the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners.

"We had a tremendous turnout last year when we debuted this program helping not only the youth who participated but also their families," said John Flanagan, CEO - CareerSource Tampa Bay. "We are looking at more than doubling the amount of youth from Hillsborough County who can benefit from this program this year. We also need to increase the number of Hillsborough County businesses participating this year."

The Summer Job Connection program will assist with career exploration, exposure to the world of work and provide extensive essential skills training through online and specialized work readiness workshops. The program offers youth an opportunity to participate in activities that are age appropriate, encourages them to take responsibility for their learning, become oriented to the workforce, and learn about new job experiences.

Applicants are required to complete a Summer Job Connection online application at www.TampaSummerJobs.com. Applicants will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis as funding is limited. A CareerSource Tampa Bay SJC staff will contact applicants to review and discuss their application and potential eligibility for the Summer Job Connection program.

All participants will be required to attend a mandatory, all day, Youth Summit followed by a Job Fair/Job Matching event. Youth will look for internships they are interested in pursuing and will compete for those internships with other youth in the program.

“For many of our summer job connection participants, this will be their first job,” said Jennifer Wilson, program coordinator for the event. “This is a great character building experience for our youth as they go out and look for that first job. They’ll have to compete with other youth in the program, some will get hired and some will not get their first choice.”

CareerSource Tampa Bay will also be reaching out to Hillsborough County businesses to participate in the program. Our Summer Job Connection employer online application is now active for those who would like to apply. The employer application can be found at www.TampaSummerJobs.com.

Non-profits, Government and Private-for-profit employers can apply for this opportunity. We are focusing on our targeted industries which include: Healthcare, Manufacturing/Construction/Building Trades, Transportation, Logistics, Retail, Information Technology and Financial Shared Services. Other in-demand occupational areas will also be considered for the Summer Job Connection program. CareerSource Tampa Bay will be the employer of record and provide 100-percent of wages for the program. SJC 2020 Program will be comprised of a blended funding model, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, WIOA Youth and support from the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners.

Click on this link to learn more for details of the 2019 Summer Job Connection program. <https://www.careersourcetampabay.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SJC-2019-End-of-Program-Sheet-09-05-2019-1013.pdf>

Businesses and youth who want to learn more about the program can go to www.TampaSummerJobs.com.

About CareerSource Tampa Bay

CareerSource Tampa Bay programs and initiatives are fully supported by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture as part of awards totaling \$19,293,411.

CareerSource Tampa Bay works with businesses and candidates to leverage their training, retraining, and competitive opportunities in the workforce. CareerSource Tampa Bay provided 240,269 services to 36,960 active Wagner-Peyser individuals during program year 2018-2019. CareerSource Tampa Bay, with our five career centers is the single largest source of job candidates in the region from entry-level to executive-level candidates.

Businesses can access CareerSource’s wide range of services that include recruiting, training for new and existing employees, targeted hiring events, and retention support strategies. All resources and services are provided at no cost to both businesses and job candidates. Programs funded through CareerSource Tampa Bay are equal opportunity programs with auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons

using TTY/TTD equipment use Florida Relay Service 711. A proud partner of the American Job Center network to learn more, visit www.careersourcetampabay.com.

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