

E.Y.E. | Educating Youth through Employment



**Summer Employment for
Northern Virginia Youth
in High-Demand Industries**

The Northern Virginia Private E.Y.E. Program



Private E.Y.E. Program – Educating Youth through Employment

WHAT IS PRIVATE E.Y.E.?

Youth Employment Specialists recruit, screen and match young adults ages 18-21 with professional opportunities in the private sector and other area businesses. These young adults also are 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 employer-driven, non-federally funded summer employment initiative since 2006.



HOW CAN MY BUSINESS PARTICIPATE?

✓ HIRE

To **HIRE** an EYE young adult for up to eight weeks during the summer:

- Provide a tax-deductible payment of \$600 to support the program's operations including recruitment and screening of a young adult specifically matched to your organization, ten hours of workshop training, ongoing assistance from Youth Employment Specialists, and an E.Y.E. Awards Ceremony for employers, youth and their parents.
- After interviewing the selected young adults, hire a young worker with an hourly wage of no less than \$7.25 per hour.

✓ SPONSOR

If you cannot hire an EYE young adult 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 adult's salary during their employment experience. Sponsors receive updates on how the young person they have sponsored is doing and also are honored at the E.Y.E. Awards Ceremony.

✓ CONTRIBUTE

Not able to hire or sponsor but still want to **CONTRIBUTE** to the E.Y.E program?

- Provide a tax-deductible contribution of any amount. Your donation will further help us make a significant, positive impact on providing young people in today's world with the skills, confidence, and training they need to be successful in tomorrow's workforce.

One Employer, One Youth, One Job – One Brighter Future

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO MY COMPANY?

✓ Increase your market access

By contributing to a young worker's development at an early age and exposing them to your company now, the possibility increases that they will be one of your industry'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 Private E.Y.E. conduct interviews with young job seekers who already have 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 has dropped drastically; as increasing numbers of mature workers are returning to the workforce, barely 3% of jobs go to our young workers. You have the opportunity to be recognized as a company that gives these young adults their first

positive employment experience in order to help them become successful future workers.

WHAT TOPICS DO THE WORKSHOPS COVER?

The Private E.Y.E. workshops help students expand their understanding of appropriate, professional behaviors in the workplace. Course content includes an orientation to job readiness skills, positive work habits, and information on careers in high demand industries. The E.Y.E. training also emphasizes personal financial management, career exploration, networking, resume-building, the benefits of further education and other important topics to help youth succeed.

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR THE PRIVATE E.Y.E. PROGRAM?

Visit our website at
www.myskillsource.org
or contact our offices:
info@myskillsource.org
or 703.752.1606

A SNAPSHOT OF PAST YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

WHERE DID THEY GO TO SCHOOL?

University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, College of William & Mary, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, Radford University and area high schools.

WHAT ARE THEIR MAJORS?

Business, Finance, Computer Science, Marketing, International Affairs, Biology and Biotechnology, Psychology, Environmental Policy and Planning, Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Communications.

WHAT ARE THEIR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?

National Honor Society, Chinese Student Association, National Foreign Language Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, YMCA, Delta Sigma Pi Professional Fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity, Student Ambassador, Marching Band, Cheerleading, Robotics Club, Model United Nations, and Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA). Many also volunteer at local fire departments, hospitals and clinics.





WHAT TYPES OF JOBS CAN E.Y.E. YOUTH DO?



Past participants in the Private E.Y.E. Program have worked as receptionists, office aides, electrician's assistants, computer lab helpers, and many other professional opportunities. *SkillSource* only requires a meaningful employment experience for each young adult that pays at least minimum wage.

WHAT OTHER SUPPORT DOES *SKILLSOURCE* PROVIDE?

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

"We hired four young adults for the summer and were extremely pleased with each of their performances. They were eager to work hard and contribute wherever they could; all of them were fast learners, reliable, courteous and personable. We look forward to participating again!"

– Chandler Ames, iDirect Technologies

"Thanks for taking the time and having the persistence to find a perfect fit for us."

– Melanie Miles, Miles/LeHane Group, Inc.

"I was quite impressed with the process and quality of the students. {The Youth Employment Specialist} did a great job of making sure that we picked the right person and we provided a proper environment for the student. Great job!"

– Sang Kim, Global Link Solutions

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. (SSG), the non-profit entity of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board (NVWIB), supports a local workforce system that is demand-side led and able to meet businesses' demand for a highly-skilled workforce.

This system offers world-class preparation to every Northern Virginia resident who resides in Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun counties and the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park.

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.



The *SkillSource* Group, Inc.
8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450
Vienna, VA 22182
www.myskillsource.org

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