



Graduating Employable - Stackable Work-Based Experiential Learning at CU

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AGENDA • INTRODUCTION

- CONTEXT AND VALUE OF EXPERIENCE
-
- WHAT STACKABLE EXPERIENCES MEANS
-
- RUN THROUGH OPTIONS
-
- WRAP UP

__% of graduating CU
Boulder seniors report
having completed an
internship.

2025 Senior Survey

46% of graduating CU Boulder seniors report having completed an internship.

2025 Senior Survey

→ Where are students getting stuck in getting internships and experience by the time they graduate?



Why the low score?

Other High Impact Experiences

Heavy Course Load

Need to Work

Lacking Experience/Competition

Application Skills/Readiness

Not Enough Opportunity

The “Oh Shoot” Student

→ Why is focusing on
experience important?





2025 Colorado

TALENT PIPELINE REPORT



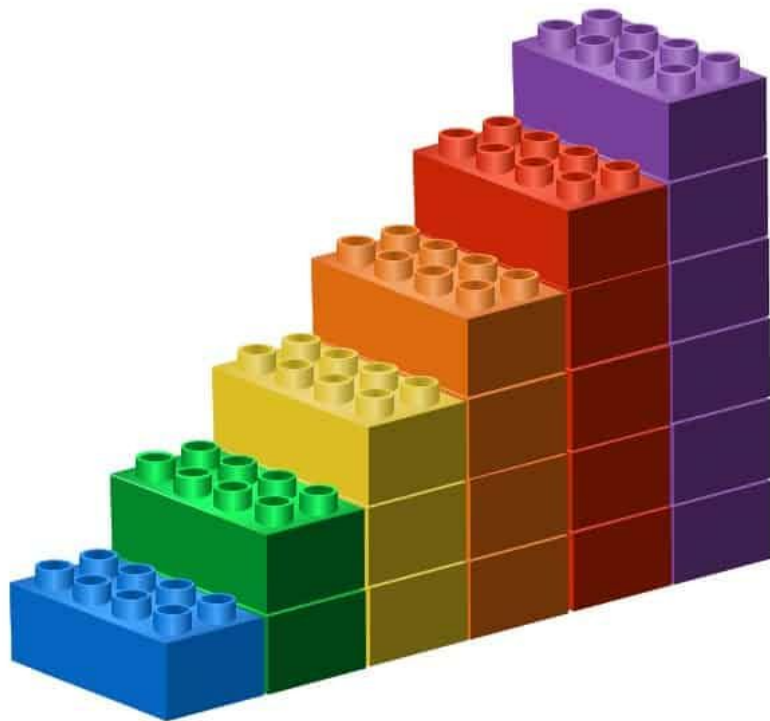


High Impact Practices (HIPs)



- Build Confidence
- Skills & Interest Alignment
- Retention & Engagement
- Employability & ROI

Stackable Experiences



Exploratory Experiences



JOB SIMULATIONS

- 1-7 Hours
- 400+ Simulations
- Big Brands



CAREER ACADEMY

- 50-100 Hours
- 50 + Fields
- Big Brands



SKILL CERTIFICATES

- 30 Minutes - 20 Hours
- Thousands of Skills



PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

- 6 Projects this Spring
- 29 Hours, 7 Weeks
- First Generation

→ Do you think these kinds of exploratory options resonate for your students?



High Impact Experiences



SERVICE LEARNING/
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT



ENTREPRENEURSHIP



RESEARCH



STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

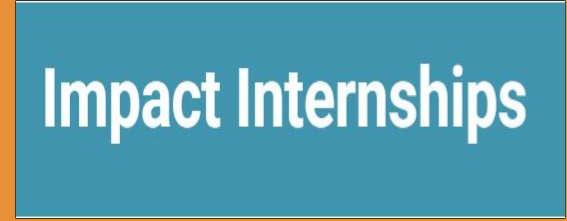
Internships

34,788
internships
were posted to
Handshake in
the last year

50 internship
course codes
used since 2024
(including graduate
and law programs)

In 2024 **86%** of
internships in
Colorado **were**
paid

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES



Stackable Experiences

Full-Time Entry Level

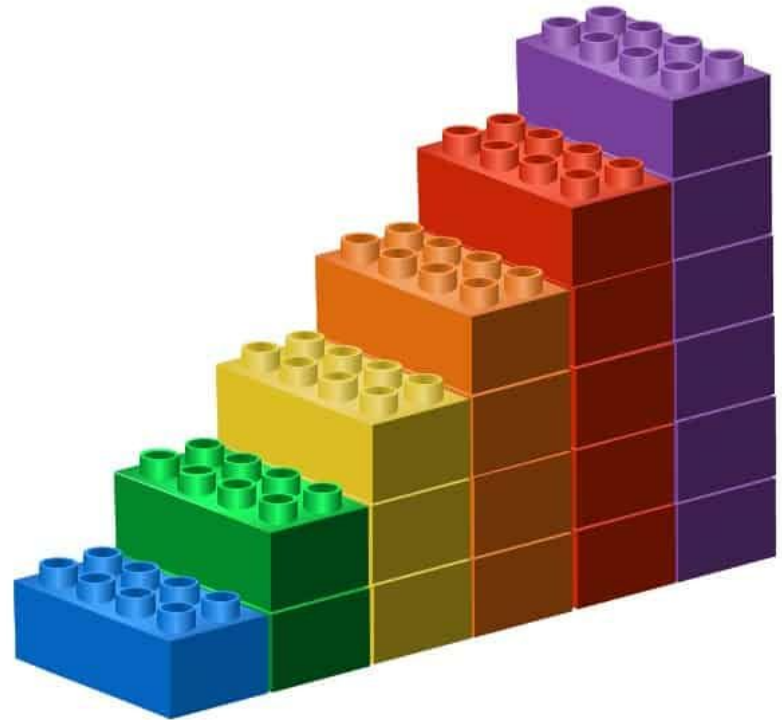
Capstone Project

Internship

Skill Certificate

Job Simulation

Part-Time Job



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2029 Senior Survey

→ Questions & Discussion



