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## BACKGROUND

Minnesota employers are increasingly calling for skilled workers. During 2021, private sector jobs increased by 5.3%, while public sector jobs rose by 2.7%. In July and August, manufacturers added nearly 6,000 jobs alone - the highest growth in 30 years! Many are struggling to find talent.

Central Minnesota business partners have also identified “soft skills” - non-technical skills such as communications, attendance, work ethic, math and computer/technology skills as essential qualities needing support.

It is imperative that our education system partner with area businesses to create relevant connections between classroom content and students' future career interests.

*Creating partnerships between education and industry directly benefits central Minnesota students.*



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## PROJECT TIMELINE

**WINTER 2022** - Enroll business partners in project

**SPRING 2022** - Seek teacher applicants for externships

**SUMMER 2022** - Complete teacher externship experiences

**SUMMER 2022** - Complete lesson planning

**FALL 2022** - Celebration Event



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Teacher Externship Program is to bring career-based classroom curricula to life, while building a bridge between skill-based and knowledge-based education. Through this unique professional development opportunity, middle and high school teachers from the Resource Training & Solutions region will be selected to work side-by-side with an industry peer during a 3 to 5 day paid summer externship at a participating central Minnesota business.

### BENEFITS TO TEACHERS:

- Gain first-hand knowledge of how classroom content and learning strategies are applied in the workplace
- Receive professional development support to create lesson plans linking externship learning to student academic and career planning
- Enhance classroom curriculum with real-world career connections
- Earn optional 2 graduate credits through College of St. Scholastica

### BENEFITS TO EMPLOYERS:

- Create lasting partnerships with local teachers
- Ensure workforce needs are understood
- Increase exposure, through personal connections to classroom teachers, to the future workforce
- Increase opportunities for additional career-based activities such as student job shadowing, plant tours, and career speakers
- Directly contribute to sustaining a more highly-skilled workforce

## WE NEED YOU!

Resource Training & Solutions is seeking a cohort of teachers and businesses for the Teacher Externship program.

### EXTERNSHIP BUSINESSES:

Sponsorship of Resource Training & Solutions Teacher Externship program ensures you a place in the next cohort.

**APPLICATION:** <https://forms.gle/nFTdCNUqnouBLDKR6>

### EXTERNSHIP TEACHERS:

Externships are currently being added. Please continue to check back often for further opportunities. A finalized brochure will also be emailed to all districts in the Resource region. To be added to our mailing list [click here](#).

**APPLICATION:** <https://forms.gle/ZCsgWHRyzVxmCrrM9>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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