

Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP)

THE 2010 HIGH SCHOOL/HIGH TECH SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Dear Employer,

This summer will be LEAP's 17th year of providing youth for a summer work experience through our Youth Transition programming for youth with disabilities. The goal of our **High School/High Tech Summer Internship Program** is to help high school youth with various sensory and physical disabilities get experience and exposure to technology related fields of interest as part of their career path development. Please consider providing an opportunity for our youth to work at your facility. These youth are capable of performing tasks in a variety of areas, and we offer support for their success on the job. Following is more specific information about our summer program:

- We are seeking to identify work sites which can use assistance from our youth with entry and higher level tasks related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Medicine) careers. We will then match our youth to the sites and tasks based on their skills, talents and interests.
- The youth will work for 6 weeks for 20 hours per week and be available to begin in June.
- The youth are paid through our program.
- These youth are ages 16-21 with various disabilities who have the interest and capacity to pursue post-secondary education and STEM careers.
- LEAP staff will be on-site with the youth as needed throughout the work experience to provide support. Support can include assistive technology, training and job coaching.
- We ask that the staff at the employment site provide work activities and direction, review with the youth (and LEAP staff) their tasks, responsibilities, and any health and safety procedures, as well as offer guidance to help our youth learn about STEM careers as well as how to be successful on the job.
- To ensure that this is a valuable learning experience, we also ask that the employer provide feedback on the youths' performance.

If you wish to host youth for an internship experience you may contact Edward Harder, Employment Specialist or Sandra Carlson, Program Director at LEAP (information below). If you have any questions, concerns, or if you need more information regarding our summer program, we would be happy to discuss this with you. We are very grateful to our community employers for the support of our program and our youth!

Sincerely,

Edward Harer
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