



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
College of Business

July 6th, 2018

Dear DCEDC Members:

The Northern Illinois University College of Business and DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) are pleased to announce a joint program to improve member access to cost-effective, professional human resources. The IGNITE! Program will provide a structure for member companies to connect with and employ NIU College of Business students part-time and will subsidize compensation for up to five DCEDC member companies, local start-ups, and local non-profit organizations.

The NIU College of Business has over 2,000 undergraduate students studying Accountancy, Business Administration, Finance, Management, Marketing, and Operations Management & Information Systems. Over seventy-five percent of NIU Business students live in DeKalb County during the academic year and sixty percent work anywhere from one to 40 hours a week. The majority of students are in jobs that do not meaningfully contribute to their professional growth. The NIU Business students are an untapped resource for DCEDC member companies. At the same time, DCEDC member companies are not an instinctual source of employment for NIU Business students. The IGNITE! Program will change this dynamic.

How it works: To participate in the IGNITE! Program, DCEDC member companies must submit an online proposal for a year-long, part-time (no more than 20 hours per week) position. Positions must include clear goals, defined professional responsibilities, projects and developmental opportunities, and general expectations. The proposal deadline is July 31, 2018.

A committee will choose five proposals from DCEDC members companies, local start-ups, and local non-profit organizations for funding. The NIU College of Business will subsidize student payment at a rate of \$10/hour. The hiring organization will contribute \$500 to support student wages and provide development opportunities to the student.

Selected organizations must assist in promoting their opportunity to students in person and online through the NIU job board at the end of August 2018. The selected organizations will be responsible for interviewing, hiring, onboarding, training, and management of the student. The period of employment will end on May 11, 2019. The enclosed flyer includes program specifics.

The NIU College of Business and DCEDC share a similar goal: To strengthen public/private partnerships in support of economic growth and diversification. The IGNITE Program is an important step toward achieving this goal.

Sincerely;

Paul J. Borek
Executive Director

Balaji Rajagopalan
NIU College of Business

IGNITE!

Access Up-and-Coming Business Talent



Program Details

Through IGNITE!, up to five DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation member companies, local start-ups and/or local non-profit organizations can easily hire NIU College of Business students to assist with professional tasks and projects during the school year. Hiring organizations pay just **\$500 for up to 32 weeks of part-time help**, with employment ending May 11, 2019. The NIU College of Business will subsidize students wages up to \$6,400.

To Participate

- ✔ **Submit a Position Proposal at go.niu.edu/IGNITE by July 31, 2018**

Position proposals must include clear goals, defined professional responsibilities, projects and developmental opportunities, and general expectations. A College of Business committee will select five to proposals to fund by **August 15th**.
- ✔ **Promote Selected Positions In-Person**

Selected organizations will pitch their positions to students through an information session and/or table in Barsema Hall on **August 29th**.
- ✔ **Promote Selected Positions Online at go.niu.edu/HGH**

Selected organizations must add their position descriptions to the *Huskies Get Hired* online job board by **August 27th**.
- ✔ **Select Your Student Employee**

The hiring organization is responsible for interviewing, hiring, onboarding, training and managing the student. The *Huskies Get Hired* online system is a great resource to help manage the process. Interviews can be held on campus through NIU Career Services, if desired.

Submit your IGNITE! proposal today: go.niu.edu/IGNITE



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