Supporting your Student’s Success

There is more to the college experience than classes and studying. Students find a lot of value and purpose in participating in extracurricular opportunities and employers find value in these experiences. Employers seek graduates who have a variety of skills, also known as career competencies, that prepare students for the workplace and recognize that these competencies can be gained both inside and outside of academic courses. Here are some opportunities for students to consider beyond the traditional classroom!

Campus Involvement:
At Colorado State University, student organizations are a way for students to not only find a community of people with shared interests and make friends, but also a place to learn more about their career field, make a difference on campus, and step into leadership roles. For example, a student might serve as the Treasurer for a student organization where they will gain skills in financial management, teamwork, leadership, and decision-making. These skills and experiences are highly valued by employers. The Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement office works to connect students with campus organizations and community involvement opportunities based on their interests. Students can schedule a one-on-one appointment with a peer involvement advisor to discover the many involvement opportunities available.

Working on Campus:
Working on campus can provide students with relevant skills, flexible hours, and a sense of community. The best way to find on campus jobs is through Handshake. There are two types of employment on campus:

Work-study:
Work-study is a part-time job opportunity that allows students to earn money to pay for their expenses. At Colorado State University, there are two types of work-study: need-based work-study and no-need work-study. For more information visit Work Study Employment – (colostate.edu)

Student Hourly:
Student hourly positions are available to any CSU undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in at least 1 credit hour and admitted to a degree-seeking program. For more information visit Student Hourly - (colostate.edu)
Internships:
An internship is a practical work experience related to a student's major or career interest. They are opportunities where students can learn how to apply classroom knowledge in a work setting, establish connections that could lead to future jobs, and gain relevant work experience that will give a competitive edge to a resume. Some companies look to hire a majority of their interns into full-time positions so an internship can be a great stepping stone into working for a particular company. Internships are also a great way for students to learn more about their chosen field and if it is a good fit for them. The Career Center is available to help students find internship opportunities, develop application materials, and has a program to financially support students who pursue an unpaid internship.

Volunteering:
Through volunteering students can meet people of different ages in various professions and expand their community. Because there are so many types of volunteer work, it can be a great way for a student who is still exploring their career path to learn more about what interests them. Volunteering by definition is unpaid, however many feel a sense of purpose through giving back. To find volunteer positions check with local nonprofits or the City of Fort Collins Volunteer Directory.

Opportunities Based on identity:
Engaging with Student Diversity Programs and Services (SDPS offices) can provide students with community, empowerment, and a sense of identity. Each office has programming, employment, and involvement opportunities for students to engage with. These include:

- Cultural programs
- Peer mentor and youth mentor programs
- Community dialogue
- Identity based student organizations
- Leadership and personal development
- Academic programs
- Resources

SDPS Offices:
- Asian Pacific American Cultural Center | APACC | APACC site (colostate.edu)
- Black/African American Cultural Center | BACC | BACC site (colostate.edu)
- El Centro | El Centro site (colostate.edu)
- Pride Resource Center | Pride site (colostate.edu)
- Native American Cultural Center | NACC | NACC Site (colostate.edu)
- Students Empowering & Engaging in Dialogue | SEED | Colorado State University (colostate.edu)
- Student Disability Center | SDC site (colostate.edu)
- Women and Gender Advocacy Center at CSU | WGAC | WGAC site (colostate.edu)

The CSU Career Center is here to help students make the most of their college experience and find the right opportunities for them. One-on-one career advising and support is available for students.