



VIRGINIA  
**TALENT +  
OPPORTUNITY  
PARTNERSHIP**



**Dewberry®**

CREATING PATHWAYS TO PROFESSIONS

## **Virginia Chamber of Commerce Work-Based Learning Spotlight**

### **Company Name:**

Dewberry

### **Please provide a brief overview about your company:**

Established in 1956 and headquartered in Fairfax, VA, Dewberry is a leading, market-facing firm with a proven history of providing multidisciplinary professional services to a wide variety of public and private-sector clients. *Engineering News-Record* ranked Dewberry as the #34 Top Design Firm in the United States.

### **Please provide a brief summary about your company's internship/apprenticeship/returnship program(s):**

First, here's what a Virginia-based intern said about the 2022 program: "While working at Dewberry, I have learned that to grow in your field, it's important to take on projects that feel challenging to you. Every project is a chance to learn something new and expand your skills and knowledge!"

The goal of our internship program is to convert interns to full-time employees after they graduate, so we provide exposure to who we are, what we do, and how their role makes an impact on the communities we serve. Dewberry's internship program gives interns the opportunity to gain hands-on experience on projects they would be working on as full-time employees in our company.

### **What is something that is interesting or innovative about your internship/apprenticeship/returnship program that you would want colleges/high school students to know about?**

Dewberry interns collaborate on a group project that values their experience and perspective while teaching project management and presentation skills. Working alongside firm leaders, they are challenged with a concept that will impact a future business strategy for the company. In 2023, interns reimaged what various consumer spaces such as retail and healthcare

facilities will look like and how they will be used 20 years from now. Their research and design concepts were shared with senior leaders across the company and will be shared in the future with Dewberry clients. The group with the highest rated project and design concept was invited to present their project to the whole company at a recent company-wide meeting.

**What kinds of work assignments are interns/apprentices responsible for at your company?**

Dewberry hires interns and recent graduates to join our ranks in architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, resilience planning, GIS/remote sensing, construction management, and various engineering disciplines, such as site/civil, transportation, water resources, structures, water/wastewater, and mechanical, electrical, plumbing.

**If another company wanted to start an internship/apprenticeship/returnship program, what words of advice would you share with them?**

When creating a company-wide internship program, companies must ensure that their incoming intern hires are provided with real, meaningful work that gives them an opportunity to learn and develop their skills while contributing to the company's growth.

**Contact person (for those who want to reach out to you to talk about your program):**

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