

## Frequently Asked Questions

### LEAP Summer Work Experience, LEAP Internship and Intro to LEAP Program

*What is the Summer Work Experience Program?*

The Summer Work Experience of LEAP (Learn, Earn, and Prosper) program provides youth, 16-24 years old, who are blind or visually impaired the opportunity to gain the skills needed to become independent, confident, and productive young adults. The LEAP program is a great balance of learning new skills and enjoying all that Vermont's outdoors has to offer in the summertime — sailing, swimming, and visiting the local Farmer's Market!

*What is the LEAP Internship Program?*

The Internship Program builds upon the foundation of the LEAP Crew. Youth will have the opportunity to continue building their transferable job skills and independent living skills in a supportive environment. Interns will work and live in the Burlington area under the guidance of trained Crew Leaders. Each intern will have an independent work site and will take public transportation to and from work to further prepare for competitive employment.

*What is Intro To LEAP?*

Intro to LEAP is an opportunity for 14-15 years olds to experience the LEAP lifestyle. The LEAP students will participate in job skills training, volunteering and practice independent living skills. Youth will interact with the older, LEAP crews creating

opportunity for mentor relationships. The students will enjoy community living while making new friends and celebrating summertime in Burlington. Activities may include swimming in the lake, barbecuing on the beach and blueberry picking.

*What are the dates of the program?*

**Intro to LEAP:** July 19-July 24, 2020 (5 nights)

**LEAP Summer Session 1:** June 20 - July 9, 2020 (3 weeks)

**LEAP Summer Session 2:** July 12 - July 30, 2020 (3 weeks)

**Internship Program:** June 20- July 30, 2020 (6 weeks)

*Where will I work on the LEAP Summer Crew?*

LEAP Crew Members work at one of three job placements three days a week; the Vermont Community Gardens one day a week; and participate in weekly career and college readiness workshops each Monday.

*What are the possible LEAP Summer job placements?*

LEAP Crew Members are placed three days a week at either ReSOURCE Williston, ReSOURCE Burlington, or the Overlook Café. Members are placed in either work site based on their interests and goals in employment. *Please see our website for more information on these worksites.*

*Where will I work in the Internship Program?*

Interns are placed at local businesses or organizations based on their career goals. Past internship sites have included, Sangha yoga studio, Mt. Mansfield Media, Burlington Free Press, Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports, Ben and Jerry's and more.

*Will I get paid in the LEAP and/or the Internship Program?*

Yes! Summer Crew Members and Interns from Vermont are paid through the DBVI work experience program.

Out of state Crew Members and Interns are paid hourly at the Vermont minimum wage.

*How do I write a cover letter and/or resume for my application?*

Please ask your TVI, Voc Rehab Counselor, school teacher or parent to offer you advice and tips in writing your cover letter and resume.

*Who should I ask for Letters of Recommendation?*

Former or current employers, teachers, or counselors are great people to ask for letters of recommendation.

*Can I bring technology to the LEAP/Internship Program?*

Yes! We encourage our participants to bring any assistive technology they might need. Cell phones, iPads, computers, etc. are welcome. Please note that the LEAP Program promotes and practices professional work skills; *technology may only be used at acceptable times in both programs.*

*Do you have more questions? Call Kaelyn Modrak, LEAP Program Manager, at 802-777-1921, or email at [kmodrak@resourcevt.org](mailto:kmodrak@resourcevt.org).*