

# step up

## Weekly Job Coach Update



## Providing Context: Connecting Your Intern's Work to Your Organization's Goals

### Providing Context about Your Organization to Your Intern

By this point in the summer, your intern likely has a good handle on the work they're doing. They've learned new skills and hopefully have some fine work product to show for it. This is a great time to connect your intern's work to the broader company or organization in which you work. Help your intern understand how the tasks they are doing, which may be fairly basic, contribute to the organization's success.

Begin by explaining the work's connection to your department or team. Next, explain how the work of your department or team supports the overall strategy of your company or organization. These conversations are important because they contribute to the learning and career exposure objectives of Step Up internships. It opens your intern's eyes to the work of your profession and all the functions that go into a successful enterprise.

Step Up internships are brief, but by providing context about your organization's goals, it will help make the work more meaningful and keep your interns positively engaged!

### Job Shadows and Advancing Your Intern's Career Insight

Job shadowing is an ideal way for interns to learn firsthand about the day-to-day work of a professional in a career field of interest. It can provide your intern the chance to "try out" a field or observe a different area or team within your organization. Job shadows also provide opportunities for interns to build professional relationships with people in their desired career field and expand their professional network. If you haven't done so already, please explore your intern's interest in setting up a job shadow opportunity with your company.