



COUNTY OF ONEIDA
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVENUE
UTICA, NEW YORK 13501
(315) 798-5800
FAX (315) 798-2390
www.ocgov.net

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
County Executive
ce@ocgov.net

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Picente Urges Oneida County-Based Students, Employers To Apply Now for College Corps Summer Internships

Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr., today announced that the Oneida County College Internship Program is accepting applications from potential interns and employers.

“Developing the workforce of the future means showing young people what this area has to offer, as well as providing them the opportunity to hone their skills through internships,” Picente said. “The Oneida County College Internship Program provides employers with outstanding, talented interns and increases students’ awareness of potential employers in their fields. Through these internships, students learn about our region, they learn about their careers, and we make some employer-intern connections that can help both students and employers in the future.”

“Internships help our young people get a look at the opportunities we have in our region, develop their skills, and make valuable community connections,” said Oneida County Legislator Steven Roefaro of Utica. “I have become a strong advocate for this program because I have seen first-hand the great job it does opening doors for our students and helping our employers find great local talent.”

Students are paid \$9 an hour and usually work 200 hours over the summer. The program targets college juniors and seniors. Employers split the cost of the internships with County Government. Staff from the Oneida County Office of Workforce Development provide pre-screening for interns and do all the paperwork.

Applications are available on line at the Workforce Development page on Oneida County’s Web site: www.ocgov.net. Applications are due April 30. **Students or employers with questions should call 798-5293 or e-mail internships@ocgov.net**

“Any time you bring enthusiastic, energetic young people into the workplace, it helps everyone,” said Picente. “Employers get the services of a bright, young intern who wants to undertake challenging projects; interns gain experience and learn about the career field they want to enter while they learn about local opportunities in their field.”

The Internship Program was begun in 1998 by the Oneida County Board of Legislators to connect top-flight students and area employer.

“Ending our region’s brain drain is a long-term process,” Picente said. “This program plants the seed that no matter where Oneida County students go to school, this is a region of opportunity they will want to consider when they look for jobs after graduation.”