

Successful Transitions from College to Career

Employer Support for High-Impact, Applied Learning Practices



- **91%** of employers say that, whatever their major, all students should have experiences in solving problems with people whose views are different than their own.*
- **73%** of employers believe that college graduates' preparation for careers would improve if they were required to complete a significant applied learning project.*
- College graduates are **2.4 times as likely to be engaged at work** if they had an internship or job that allowed them to apply their classroom learning, were active in cocurricular activities, and worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete.**

Employer Endorsement of High-Impact Practices*

A majority of employers say they are *more likely to hire* college graduates who have completed:

	Much more/Somewhat more likely to hire
Internships Internship or apprenticeship with a company or organization	94%
Senior Projects Advanced, comprehensive project in senior year, such as a thesis, senior project, or other major assignment that requires the student to demonstrate depth of knowledge in their major AND their acquisition of research, problem-solving, and communication skills	87%
Writing-Intensive Courses Multiple courses requiring significant writing assignments	81%
Collaborative Research Research project done collaboratively with peers	80%
Community-Based/Service Learning A community-based or service learning project with a community organization	69%
Study Abroad Study abroad program in which a student lives and studies abroad for a semester or longer	51%

* Hart Research Associates. *Falling Short? College Learning and Career Success* (Washington, DC: AAC&U, 2015), www.aacu.org/leap/public-opinion-research

** Gallup. *Great Jobs, Great Lives: The 2014 Gallup-Purdue Index Report* (2014).



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