



ClarkCONNECT Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is ClarkCONNECT?

ClarkCONNECT is a presidential initiative to connect our students to Clark alumni for mentorship, networking around shared career and academic interests, college-to-career exploration and advice, and world and workplace opportunities. Through these connections, students learn the relevancy and application of classroom knowledge and skills across diverse settings, discovering internship and employment opportunities on the platform and actively bridging life at Clark to real world experiences.

2. Why ClarkCONNECT?

Learning to contribute to and collaborate within a community of peers and partners is an essential skill for future success. The connections you make and the support you receive from – and give to – other community members are powerful advantages. ClarkCONNECT models this structure and energy by reaching beyond campus to create an expansive community that increases students' knowledge of industries and organizations and helps you prepare for a successful career launch with the support of the Clark community.

3. Who oversees ClarkCONNECT?

The Alumni & Friends Engagement Office in partnership with the LEEP Center is the convener of ClarkCONNECT and brings together students, faculty, alumni, parents and friends for career development and exploration that lead to a successful launch from Clark. Overseeing the initiative is the Alumni & Friends Engagement Office, the LEEP Center, a University Steering Committee and Alumni and Faculty co-chairs for each community.

4. What is the ClarkCONNECT digital platform?

ClarkCONNECT facilitates and expands virtual access to mentorship, opportunities and community. An even better way to describe the digital platform is Clark's own LinkedIn. To join go to clarkconnect.clarku.edu.

5. How can I get involved? Mentoring, Opportunities & Community

ClarkCONNECT combines great people and great tools. The people include you - students, alumni, faculty, and Clark partners and supporters. The tools include an online platform –for mentorship, collaboration, experiential opportunities, knowledge-sharing, inspiring symposia and other events.

a. Mentoring – on ClarkCONNECT

Fostering connections with Clark University alumni, parents and friends on a wide range of fields and interests to provide valuable mentorship, graduate school guidance and career advice.

b. Opportunities – you can an opportunity on ClarkCONNECT.

ClarkCONNECT makes use of an extensive network of Clark alumni, parents and friends who are eager to provide opportunities to amplify Clark students' liberal arts education and prepare them for successful launch.

ClarkCONNECT opportunities should seek to:

- Build capacity for Clarkies at your organization by posting the opportunity.
- Give preference to an applicant from Clark and shepherd a student through the application/hiring process.
- Be willing to connect the student to someone within your organization with hiring authority.

To learn more and/or submit an opportunity go [here](#).

c. Community

- Join one of ClarkCONNECT's eight Career Communities.
- Expand your network by attending a ClarkCONNECT event.
- Attend a ClarkCONNECT event. See what is happening [here](#) at <https://clarkconnect.clarku.edu/hub/clark-connect-events>.
- Host a ClarkCONNECT event or workshop.
- Participate in a career preparation program.

Contact Donna Curry, Executive Director of Alumni & Student Engagement/ClarkCONNECT, at dcurry@clarku.edu to learn more.

6. What kinds of opportunities is ClarkCONNECT using to bridge theory with practice?

a. Internships

Internships offer challenging and engaging work experiences that enables a student to gain knowledge and skills within an organization, industry, or functional area that reflects the student's academic and professional interests. We suggest an eight-week position (June-July) with minimum pay of \$3,500 (based on 35-40 hours per week).

Can I post unpaid internships?

Yes, but unpaid internships at for-profit organizations should be consistent with the six criteria for internships defined by the [Fair Labor Standards Act](#) [<https://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs71.htm>].

Paid internship positions typically receive more applications than unpaid internship postings.

If I need help developing my internship, whom do I contact?

We recommend starting with the [Employer Internship Guide](#) [<http://www2.clarku.edu/offices/career/employers/internship/index.cfm>] for various tools of development for your opportunity.

b. LEEP projects

LEEP Projects offer students real-world applications of course material, allowing students to have authentic problem solving experiences all while engaging with others outside of Clark. This means that projects should have:

- A well-defined deliverable or tangible end product toward which the student can work.
- A clear set of expectations of, as well as benefits for, the student.
- A project supervisor, who serves as the primary point-of-contact and manages the student and their project
- An external component, broadly defined, that allows the student to engage with others outside of Clark. A project sponsor and a faculty mentor.

c. Job shadowing

A work experience option where students learn about a job by walking through the workday as a shadow to a competent worker. The job shadowing work experience is a temporary, unpaid exposure to the workplace in a professional area of interest to the student.

7. How do students learn about ClarkCONNECT Opportunities?

Students will receive information about your ClarkCONNECT posting through career and peer advisors, academic departments, campus newsletters, and social media outreach. Every effort is made to promote your opportunity so you receive applicants. If you have questions at any time during the posting process, please contact Rosie Gallant, Director of Employer Engagement, at rogallant@clarku.edu.

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