

## Transform Early-Career Recruitment with Micro-Internships





Welcome to a New Era of Early-Career Hiring



## PARKER DEWEY

- How Parker Dewey Helps You: Parker Dewey's platform helps organizations access, engage, assess, and hire early-career talent.
- <u>How Do We Do This</u>: Connect you with a highly-motivated talent pool through short-term, paid professional assignments (Micro-Internships) which we created in 2015.
- <u>Who Are Parker Dewey Micro-Interns</u>: Our platform offers a nationwide network of diverse college students and recent graduates, providing them with real-world work experiences to improve hiring outcomes.

At Parker Dewey, we're not just filling positions — we're building bridges between education and employment one Micro-Internship at a time.

Microsoft HubSpot

♥FLEETCOR<sup>®</sup> SmithNephew

#### What are Micro-Internships

Micro-Internships are **short-term**, **paid**, **professional projects** that can be completed **on-demand** by highly motivated early-career talent.

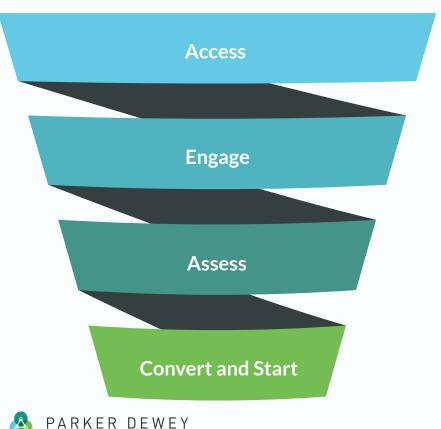
- → **Projects:** Involves a specific deliverable, as opposed to ongoing or regularly scheduled tasks
- → Short-term: Typically a total of 10-40 hours of work by the Micro-Intern
- → On-demand: can be done year-round, with no administrative burdens (payroll, legal, etc.)
- → Paid: Fixed cost to make it simple, usually \$200-\$600 per project
- → **Professional:** Similar to what would be assigned to an intern or new hire

Micro-Internships provide a valuable way to **access**, **engage**, **assess**, and **hire** for traditional internships and full-time roles.



## Why Micro-Internships Work for Students

This is how students want to be recruited



75% of college students are eager to explore career paths during their first two years in college

71%

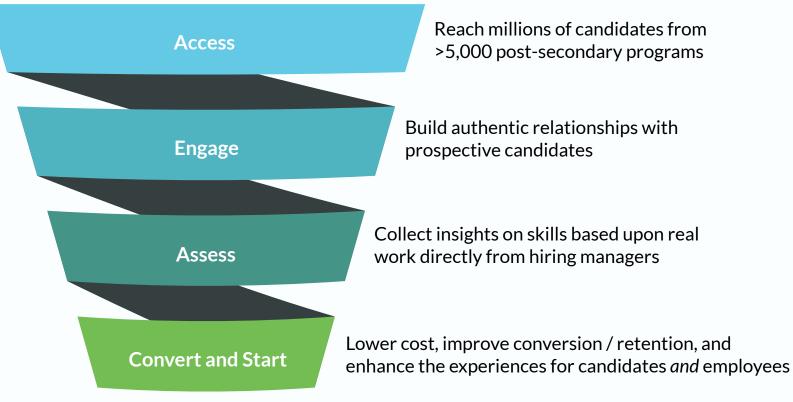
say the traditional recruiting processes does not allow them to accurately demonstrate skills

95%

say real, short-term work experiences are how they want to be recruited and select the right opportunity

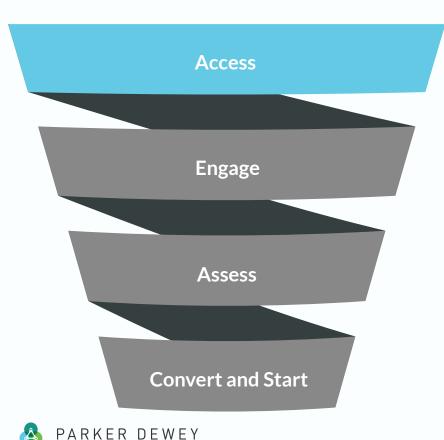
## **Real Assessment Built Into the Process**

#### Build relationships and hire students based on their work





## Reach Students Across Majors, Backgrounds, Location, ...



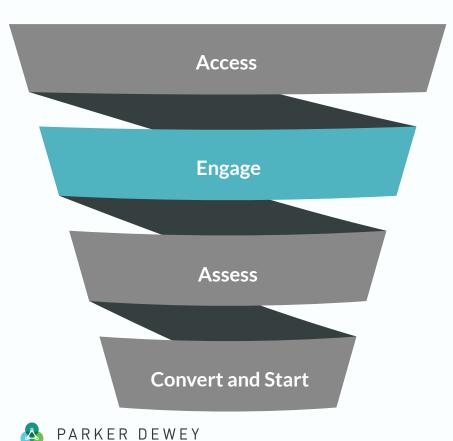
Creates an "always on" pipeline of talent, including those candidates who may be missed

## MHolland

Micro-Internships reached candidates with geographic ties to its location, but who did not attend focus schools.

Increased candidate pipeline by over 5x, driving interest of students from Illinois while also reducing cost per hire by cutting costs for campus recruiting budgets, and eliminating temp-to-perm and search firm fees.

## **Target Specific Students Based Upon Organizational Needs**



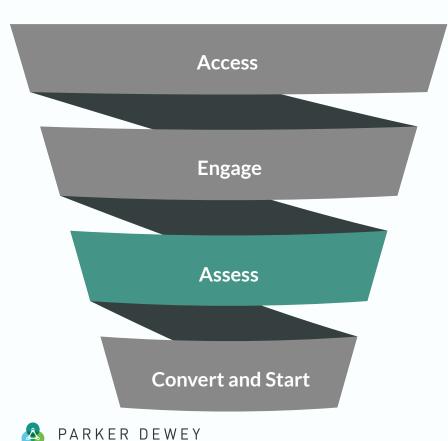
"Cuts through the noise" to reach candidates and keep them engaged

## Corpay<sup>\*</sup> VFLEETCOR<sup>®</sup>

Early ID program used Micro-Internships to build relationships between underclassmen and hiring managers.

Built relationships with <u>students studying</u> <u>fintech, AI, and strategy</u> as a feeder to summer internship program for those <u>unaware of the</u> <u>company or industry</u>.

## Gain Insights On Skills and Fit Earlier In the Process



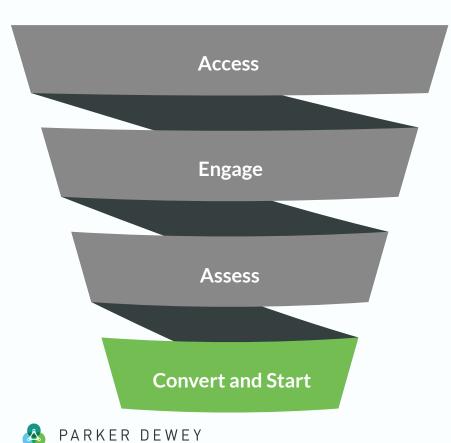
Serves as "auditions" where skills and fit can be understood more effectively

## **Grange**theory®

Selected several Micro-Internship to complete a project that aligned to a full-time role, allowing hiring managers to review a one-page work product with the resume.

Talent acquisition team <u>quickly identified</u> <u>high-potential candidates</u>, allowing them to nurture relationships and <u>present vetted</u> <u>candidates</u> to hiring managers.

## **Build Relationships That Drive Conversion and Starts**



Build relationships that drive confidence in fit and keep candidates warm

## Smith-Nephew

Shared that they would be offering Micro-Internships at their career fair booth, driving interest by candidates and keeping them engaged following the event.

Increased <u>ongoing engagement by over 3x</u>, with over <u>90% conversion rate</u> and <u>100%</u> <u>first-year retention</u> including an Employee of the Year winner.

## **Real Assessment Built Into the Process**

Gain insights on 12 key attributes that are vital for great hires, but are difficult to evaluate

#### **Application process**

- Self-starter: Proactively signs up, creates a Parker Dewey profile, and applies to your project
- Attention to detail: Submits well-written, error-free application question responses
- Interest: Demonstrates a drive to learn about your industry or organization by applying
- **Diversity**: Showcases insights and perspectives based upon their experiences

#### **Project engagement**

- **Communication**: Actively communicates project updates and questions
- Empathy: Understands the goals of the project manager, including their desired outcome
- **Coachability**: Wants to learn and improve by applying positive and constructive feedback
- **Timeliness**: Meets deadlines and turns in deliverables to hiring manager as agreed

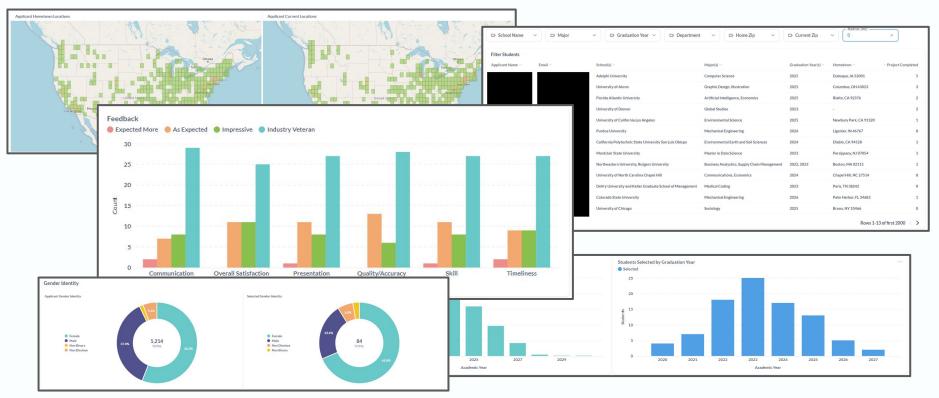
#### Work product

- **Problem solving**: Illustrates the ability to think critically in order to develop high-quality work
- Role-specific skills: Demonstrates the skills required to produce the final product
- Intellectual curiosity: Shows a genuine enthusiasm for the work and exploring new ideas
- **Professionalism**: Presents deliverables in a manner appropriate for the workplace



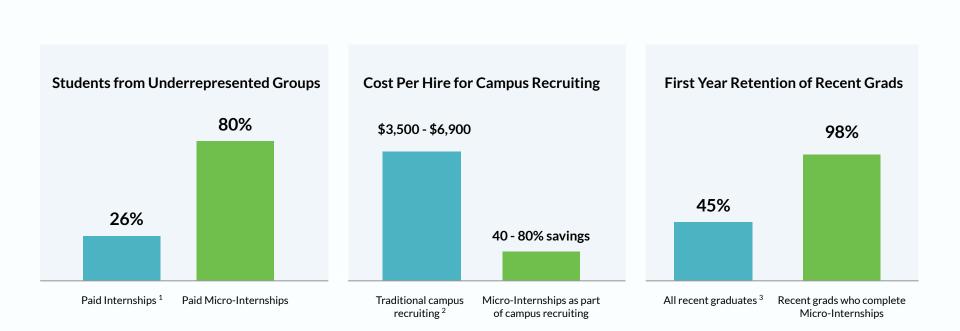
#### Parker Dewey+

#### Build Your Talent Pipeline, Measure the Impact with On-Demand Data



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#### **Demonstrated Impact**



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<sup>1</sup> According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) 2019 Student Survey Report.
<sup>2</sup> Based on averages compiled by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) 2018 Recruiting Benchmarks Survey.

<sup>3</sup> According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics National Longitudinal Surveys NLSY97.

## Post a Micro-Internship in 3 Easy Steps



#### **Post Your Project**

Think about the tasks you want done, but don't have the time for or aren't the best use of time for you or your team.



#### Select Who You Want

You'll only see candidates who have proactively expressed interest in completing your assignment.

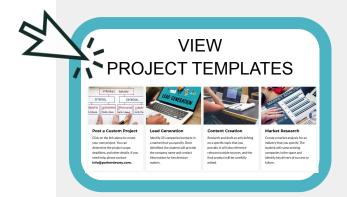


#### The Work Gets Done

You can communicate with the student as much or as little as you want and in whatever way is easiest for you.

#### Easy by design

- Helps busy professionals get work done
- Allows employers to harness the recruiting benefits





#### Use a Template or Create Your Own

Most Popu

Research &



#### What needs to be done



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Deadline



#### Any other details

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#### Select the Micro-Intern(s), and the Work Gets Done

#### Only see candidates who have proactively applied

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Applicant Name	Fairfield University Finance	5/9/2025	7/30/2023	4 8
Applicant Name	Morgan State University Business Management	5/12/2025	7/31/2023	\$ \$
Applicant Name	Delaware State University Moss Communications	12/16/2023	7/27/2023	4 8
Applicant Name	Morgan State University Marketing	5/28/2026	7/31/2023	\$ \$
Applicant Name	California State University Dominguez Hills Biology	5/11/2024	8/3/2023	4 8
Applicant Name	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Marketing	12/16/2023	7/31/2023	☆ &

View student profiles, resumes, LinkedIn profile and/or portfolio documents

Review short-answer questions to quickly make a decision

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<u>Company Tutorial: See how the whole</u> process works for companies





Sample Micro-Internship Programs



Your team defines the goals, our team handles the rest.



After defining your goals, our team designs the project, markets and manages the program, and support students so you can focus on your job.



You (or your hiring managers) do the fun stuff including kicking off the project with students and hearing their presentations.



You get all of the candidate data, skills insights, and recommendations to keep high-potential candidates engaged.

#### **Campus Ambassadors**

Expand employer brand awareness, build meaningful relationships, identify prospective candidates, and keep students still completing their degree engaged prior to graduation.

#### Includes

- 10 paid, 20-hour projects for students at target schools
- 6-week engagement
- Branded Micro-Internship portal
- Ownership of all final work product

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#### **Project**

Campus Ambassadors will develop and execute a student engagement strategy for their campus to introduce potential candidates to the organization.

#### **Benefits**

- Enhanced employer brand awareness
- Authentic engagement through peer-to-peer tailored outreach
- Continuous engagement and valuable insights on campus trends and student needs



#### **Job Audition**

Provide a dynamic and engaging experience for candidates, allowing them to showcase their talents and fit for a specific role you need to fill.

#### Includes

- 20 paid, 10-hour projects for rising seniors or recent grads
- 6-week engagement
- Branded Micro-Internship portal
- Ownership of all final work product

#### Project

Students will identify prospective leads, develop sales content, and deliver a presentation that demonstrates their ability address the target market.

#### **Benefits**

- Enhanced candidate assessment
- Improved hiring accuracy based on demonstrated capabilities
- Transparent evaluation process where candidates understand exactly what is expected of them



## Early ID

Introduce your organization, build relationships, and demonstrate your employer brand to get on the radar of high-potential students just starting their academic program

#### Includes

- 20 paid, 10-hour projects for first- and second-year students
- 6-week engagement
- Branded Micro-Internship portal
- Ownership of all final work product

#### Project

Choose from a pre-scoped template or define your own, where each student completes a 10-hour research project that introduces your organization, customers, and roles.

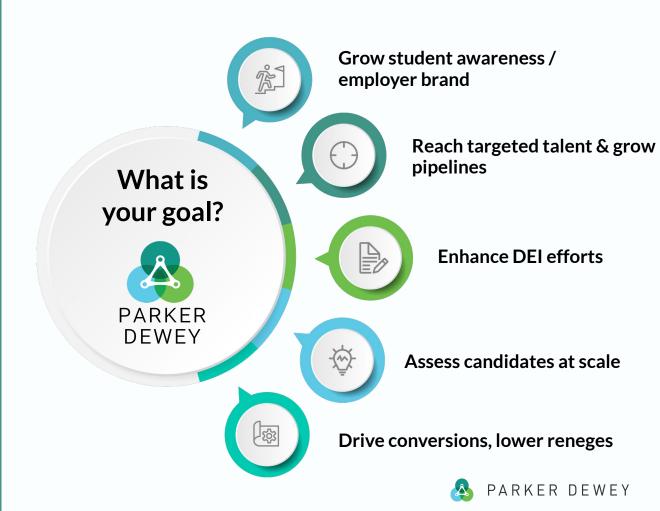
#### **Benefits**

- Continuous pipeline of high-potential candidates
- More engaged candidate base
- Better prepared interns and new hires



What hiring challenge can Micro-Internships help you solve?

These easy-to-implement ideas are based on YOUR early-career recruitment goals and complement your existing strategies.



#### Next Steps



#### • Post a Micro-Internship

- Incorporate into your Campus Recruiting Efforts
  - Offer Micro-Internships before you visit campus to reach prospective candidates and engage them earlier.
  - Showcase Micro-Internships during career fairs, info sessions, and other recruiting events.
  - Use insights from Micro-Internships to assess candidate skills beyond resumes or interviews.
  - Keep candidates warm by offering Micro-Internships to those who have expressed interest, attended events, or received offers.
- Schedule a time to discuss your specific goals



#### Grow Student Awareness / Employer Brand

- Help students to understand who you are and what you do (B2B, small organizations, certain industries, etc.)
- Address brand perception mismatch (students not realizing Pepsi has tech roles or Microsoft has HR)

#### Actionable ideas

- → Promote Micro-Internships in advance of career fairs, info sessions, and other on-campus events to drive interest
- → Post projects that highlight hiring needs in multiple departments, not just the ones you're known for

# 75%

of students want to explore careers unrelated to their degree, but lack clear starting points for learning about unfamiliar roles, companies, and industries in their career planning.

Student Sentiment Report



"I had no idea who FleetCor was when I applied [to the Micro-Internship]."

<u>Jessica, Class of 2022,</u> <u>Accepted full-time role with</u> <u>FleetCor</u>



# $\bigcirc$

#### Reach Target Talent & Grow Pipelines First and Second-Year Students

- By the time students are ready for traditional internships, they already have preconceived notions about what types of companies and industries they want to work in
- Multi-talented students interested in multiple career options may be hesitant to start exploring with long-term commitments

#### Actionable ideas

- Post research-based Micro-Internships that allow students to learn more about your industry as they do the project
- Invite students who have shown interest in your
   Micro-Internships to apply for your traditional internships in the future



of students are considering career options by 2nd year or earlier.

## Smith-Nephew

"Someone who's open to learning is critical to us... that's who we strive to hire in that first and second year, to pull through to their junior and senior year and then to full-time."

<u>Alison Keefe.</u> Director of Emerging Talent

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## **Enhance DEI Efforts**

- Hiring managers may have unintentional biases that have led them to prioritize specific schools or backgrounds
- Nontraditional students, first-generation students, and student-athletes often don't have time for traditional internships
- Candidates remain focused on belonging, and are cynical about messaging

#### Actionable ideas

- → Offer Employee Resource Group (ERG) members opportunities to work with Micro-Interns, building relationships valued by both employees and candidates alike
- Post Micro-Internships during academic breaks for students who can't afford to not work during that time, but are still hungry for industry experience
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"You don't really know how you'll work with a person until you actually work with them. With this, you get to...make sure your working styles match."

Bhavana Singh. Three Moons Consulting



"It's about finding that right fit... This goes much deeper than what one can simply read or discover at a career fair."

Nyauni, Class of 2023



## **Assess Candidates at Scale**

- Resumes and interviews don't provide enough insights to evaluate skills
- Time consuming "top of funnel" processes limit time available to focus on the key candidates

#### Actionable ideas

- → Use Micro-Internships as mass auditions for specific roles (eg sales) to efficiently gain insight on candidates' skills
- → Offer projects that mirror actual job tasks, allowing you (and candidates) to better gauge fit earlier in the process

# 29%

of students feel that the typical recruiting process allows them to showcase their full range of skills and aptitudes.

Student Sentiment Report

# xylem

"After a pilot, we're now expanding the program and collaborating with managers to promote this skills-centered approach."

Karen Lutz. Vice President Talent and Leadership Development.





## **Drive Conversions, Lower Reneges**

- Limited relationships between candidates and hiring managers increases the risks of reneges
- Candidates feel disconnected from the company when the recruiting process ends

#### Actionable ideas

→ Offer Micro-Internships to interns you've already identified as target talent or those you've extended offers to, keeping those relationships warm and reducing the risks of renege

#### 12ANDE TECHNOLOGIES

"After hosting a few Micro-Interns, we made multiple hires the next year; the candidates had a great experience and learned what our company was about, which led them to accept offers *and* tell their peers about what our company had to offer."

Shannon Wade Early Career Recruiting Lead



"Micro-Internships helped me decide if this is actually a career path that I wanted to take."

