



**ACCELERATE TO
INDUSTRY (A2i)**
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
GRADUATE COLLEGE



Accelerate to Industry™
FOUNDED BY THE NC STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL



A bold new approach to graduate career education

In the fall of 2020, the University of Delaware Graduate College launched Accelerate to Industry™ (A2i), a workforce development program founded by the North Carolina State University Graduate School. The A2i program represents a bold new approach to enhance career readiness of graduate students and postdoctoral trainees.

The A2i program offers concierge recruitment support and engagement opportunities with UD's graduate-level candidates across all disciplines. The goals of the program are to:

- enable organizations to identify, attract and assess UD's brightest graduate students for career opportunities
- boost organizations' brand awareness, drive interest and build relationships with early career talent and leaders at the University of Delaware
- offer a platform for organizations to build a talent pipeline via helping to shape the training of graduate students and postdocs.

Intended participants for the A2i program include master's and Ph.D. students and postdoctoral trainees. Recent alumni who hold doctoral degrees from UD may also participate.

A2i partners can customize their engagement levels through five modules: **Job Search Strategies, Internship, Immersion, Team Practicum, and Company Site Visit.**

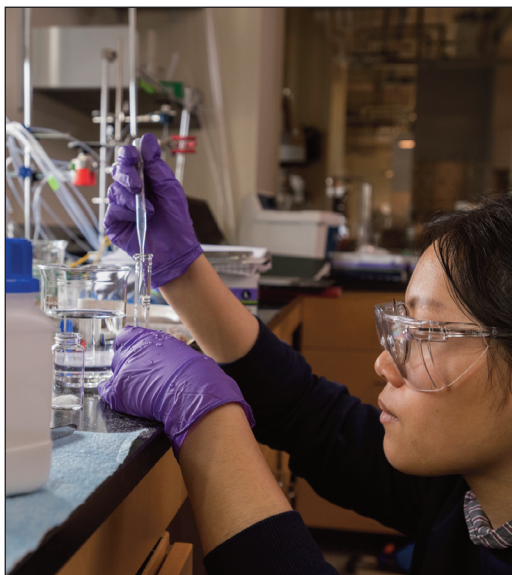


JOB SEARCH STRATEGIES

Job Search Strategies is a multi-week module comprised of two parts: career presentations and career skill-building seminars. The goals of JSS are to raise awareness of career options, best practices to navigate the job search process and strategies to secure desired positions. During the seminars, A2i partner representatives will have opportunities to speak about their organizations, share their career journeys and provide career guidance on topics such as career landscape, building professional networks, resume writing and interviewing, as well as salary and compensation negotiations. The JSS modules are typically held in the fall semester.

INTERNSHIP

The A2i Internship module is a unique opportunity for organizations to connect with our high-caliber, graduate-level talents. By hosting graduate interns, you will



supercharge your organization's early career recruiting pipeline and vet potential new hires by seeing them in action. The program is intended to bring highly motivated graduate interns with strong research and analytical skills and complementary expertise to your team. It also provides our students opportunities to familiarize themselves with challenges in your field while evaluating the organization as a prospective employer.

During the A2i Internship module, graduate students will engage in project-based work determined by the host organization. The A2i partner chooses the project scope, time commitment and deliverables. The work can be performed in an in-person, hybrid or remote format and can be held throughout the year.



IMMERSION

The goal of the Immersion module is to provide training opportunities that will help participants develop and hone skills required to be impactful contributors in the partners' organizations. A2i partners codevelop the content with UD's A2i team and deliver it as a structured, multiday experience. The Immersion module offers comprehensive coverage of industry-specific knowledge through presentations and hands-on workshops, along with additional professional development activities such as company meet and greets, team-based projects, networking sessions and career panels.

TEAM PRACTICUM

The Team Practicum module is designed to recruit four or five members per team from various disciplines to work on a semester-long project defined by the A2i partner. The team-based approach is designed to encourage participants to think beyond their respective disciplines and helps them learn to leverage their

technical backgrounds and creativity to move ideas and projects forward in a cross-disciplinary team context. In this module, A2i partners will have an opportunity to evaluate a large and diverse pool of graduate-level talent.

COMPANY SITE VISIT

The Company Site Visit module is geared toward a more intimate engagement between potential candidates and professionals at A2i partner organizations. Site visits can be utilized to help build interest in your company, raise awareness of how your mission resonates with potential applicants, address available opportunities and cover recruiting time-lines. Company site visits boost brand awareness and raise participants' desire to build a career with the respective organizations. A2i partners can host an in-person site visit or a virtual one. A typical site visit consists of an organization presentation, employee panel Q&A, networking opportunity and an office space or lab tour.



A2i ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND LEVELS

To build brand awareness and effectively attract sought-after talent, we highly recommend frequent engagement with our graduate students and postdoctoral trainees throughout their academic life cycle.

The University of Delaware's A2i program offers concierge recruitment services through an annual sponsorship model to assist our partners with the recruitment efforts. Annual sponsorship supplements traditional recruiting by connecting our sponsors with their target applicant pool and strengthening relationships with academic departments to cultivate career-ready candidates.

There are three tiers of sponsorship that provide a variety of benefits. The sponsorship fee will be used to cover expenses associated with engagement activities such as producing marketing materials, room rentals and catering.

BENEFITS FOR ALL SPONSORS

- Kickoff strategy session with the A2i team
- Targeted recruitment support for internships, full-time positions and other hiring needs
- Resumes in a portfolio book for positions posted
- On-site or virtual interview assistance

Participating in the A2i program offers your organization the added benefit of a meaningful and robust engagement experience for recruiting UD's brightest graduate students and postdoctoral trainees. Thank you for your interest in partnering with us. We are excited to work with you to achieve your workforce development and recruiting needs.

To learn more, please contact **Dr. Suprawee Tepsuporn**, senior assistant dean for graduate professional development, at **suprawee@udel.edu** or **(302) 831-3603**.



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