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BUSINESS

Pioneer grows its summer intern banking program for college students

Largest group since they started, can lead to permanent jobs



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Pioneer says this summer they have their largest and most diverse group of interns to date. Courtesy Pioneer Bank

> ALBANY — Pioneer has brought on 20 college and university students for summer internships, making for what they say is their largest and most diverse intern class to date.

Undergraduate, master's, law school and MBA students will work full-time, in-office schedules the bank's headquarters and branches. They are actively engaged in departments throughout the organization, including retail, consumer loan and commercial credit; IT, fraud and compliance; and wealth management, insurance and marketing.

In addition, student interns will participate in weekly professional development seminars and workshops, which allow them to interact with Pioneer's executive team; build their knowledge base in the financial industry; and receive insight and practical training on career skills, from resume writing and interview preparation to creating a professional development plan.

The comprehensive summer internship program also includes a Community Service Day, in which students will complete an off-site project at Northern Rivers, a Capital Region human services agency.

"We're proud to welcome these exceptional students to Pioneer's Summer Internship Program, and excited to continue to expand the size and scope of this important initiative," said Susan Hollister, executive vice president and chief human resources officer at Pioneer. "As a community-minded institution, we take seriously our responsibility to help prepare our region's next generation of leaders. We do that by providing students with real-world financial industry experience, grounded in Pioneer's commitment to integrity, customer service and community involvement."

The students attend regional colleges and universities, including the University at Albany, Russell Sage College, and Siena College, and other state institutions, such as the University at Buffalo, Cornell University, Hartwick College, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Le Moyne College, St. John Fisher University, Syracuse University, and Utica University.

Other schools include Bentley University, Bryant University, UNC Charlotte, College of the Holy Cross, the University of Georgia, and the University of Richmond.

Since the summer internship program was launched in 2018 – and including a pause during the COVID-19 pandemic - five student interns have been hired for full-time positions at the bank.

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