What is Lumity’s Student Based Enterprise?

Lumity’s Student Based Enterprise (SBE) is a STEM-focused job training program for students sixteen and older. The objective of the program is to give hands-on real experiences to teens and young adults on technical, business/entrepreneur, and teamwork skills to increase their interest in a career in IT and to prepare them for employment.

How many students are involved?

We recruit 40 students from under resourced Chicago neighborhoods. Students who successfully complete the first year and have an interest in an IT career will be invited to continue in the program to deepen and learn additional IT skills and to gain additional leadership skills. New students will be added each year to maintain a minimum of 30 in the program each year.

How does it work?

1. Lumity recruit students from various underserved communities.
2. Students apply and are interviewed mirroring a traditional employment application process.
3. During the school year (Oct-June), students attend 30 instructional workshops on Saturdays (9am-1pm) at our office in downtown Chicago to learn:
   a. Technical skills – Taught through hands-on instruction with opportunities to earn certifications.
   b. Teamwork Skills – Students learn to work in teams and gain experience with various team roles
   c. Business/Entrepreneur Skills – Students learn how to operate a business and deliver tech services for real clients (small businesses in their communities).
   d. STEM Career Readiness – Students gain awareness and tools to enhance their ability to relate to others and how to be value-add in the workplace.
4. Students participate in a 7-week summer paid internship (July-August) where they work approximately 25 hours a week building a website for their client.
   a. Neighborhood businesses pay a nominal fee for the service.
   b. Students are paid for their work based on attendance and performance (up to $11/hour).
   c. Students get coaching from instructors and volunteers as they work on their client website project

How can I get involved?

1. Volunteer to coach a team leveraging your business and/or tech skills. Spend 2 hours (10am-noon) during 10 or more Saturdays throughout the year. We provide you with a schedule so you can plan based on your availability and skill set.
2. Sponsor the program, either as an individual or a company! We welcome donations of all sizes to help cover direct program costs (student transportation, instructors, hardware, software, etc.).

Contact Andi Grabemeyer at agrabemeyer@lumity.org or (312) 237-4209 to get involved.