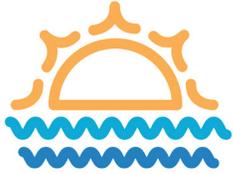


ON THE RISE



Summer interns with Prosper Appalachia completed workforce development trainings on the online platform Rise through a partnership with CREATE BRIDGES at the University of Kentucky.

Nearly 100 Prosper Appalachia interns enrolled in online workforce development trainings over Summer 2021. These trainings were created to meet the identified needs of Eastern Kentucky business owners and employees through the CREATE BRIDGES program at the University of Kentucky. Interns had the opportunity to complete 8 of 26 courses. The Rise courses cover the following topics: personality traits and how those have an impact on the workplace; SMART goals; time management; professionalism; self-care; customer service etiquette; leadership development; and conflict resolution.

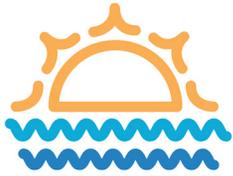
Prosper Appalachia offered a 10-week paid summer internship experience hosted by a variety of businesses and organizations across Eastern Kentucky. Youth ages 16-24 in Bell, Clay, Harlan, Knox, Leslie, Letcher, Perry and Whitley counties could apply and participate in Prosper Appalachia.

Businesses/organizations that served as internship hosts:

- Annie's Frugal Finery
- Corbin Primary School
- Cowan Community Center
- Denise M Davidson & Associates Psc.
- Department of Public Advocacy
- Harlan County Tourism
- Helton Construction
- KCEOC Community Action
- Letcher County Tourism
- Lilley Cornett Woods
- Lynch Country Club
- Moonbow Tipple
- Northfork Local Foods
- Old Homeplace Farms
- Pine Mountain Settlement School
- Pineville Main Street
- Primary Care Centers of Eastern KY - Hyden Clinic
- Red Bird Mission
- Smith and Owens Family Dental
- The General Store
- Knox County Fiscal Court



In addition to working with business owners and completing training content through Rise, the interns toured the state capitol.



Rise is available to any Kentucky business interested in employee training.

WHAT IS RISE? Rise is an online learning platform that is easy to use. Courses on Rise fall under 3 themes: essential skills necessary for employment, ways to advance a career through skill building in sales and marketing, and management/leadership skills. The Rise online trainings can be used to relieve business owners from having to invest time in on-boarding employees. Training topics available on Rise include phone and email etiquette, understanding the customer journey, workplace ethics, and more.

The Rise online workforce development trainings are currently available to KY businesses in the CREATE (Retail, Accommodations, Tourism, and Entertainment) sector in the project's 11 county service region (Lawrence, Johnson, Floyd, Magoffin, Wolfe, Lee, Owsley, Jackson, Clay, Leslie, Perry) for free! Businesses outside of the CREATE sector and/or service region can enroll in the courses for \$39/6 weeks.

ABOUT PROSPER APPALACHIA: The Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, along with Berea College Partners for Education, Brushy Fork Leadership Institute, Save

the Children KY, and Fahe partnered to create an education-to-career pipeline organization called Prosper Appalachia. The purpose of the summer internships through Prosper Appalachia is to connect young people in eight counties with employment and training opportunities in IT, retail, service, manufacturing, and health care. Prosper Appalachia partners are actively working to lower unemployment, increase post-secondary educational attainment, reduce early childhood educational barriers, and support sustainable neighborhood and community level system changes. Learn more [here](#).

ABOUT CREATE BRIDGES: CREATE BRIDGES is a 3 year program for multi-county regions to develop their retail and hospitality industries. Kentucky is fortunate to be one of 3 states to participate in the pilot of this program. The project brings an innovative approach to addressing business and workforce development at no cost to the region. You can learn more about CREATE BRIDGES initiatives and efforts [here](#), or contact Mercedes Maness, project coordinator, for more information.



Get started with Rise by contacting Mercedes Maness, UK Project Coordinator at mercedes.maness@uky.edu

