



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF MINORITY AFFAIRS, STATE OF ALABAMA

Alabama HBCU Co-Op Program

The AL HBCU Co-Op Program The Alabama Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Co-Op Program ("HBCU Co-Op Program") was created under the umbrella of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs' (GOMA) Alabama HBCU Initiative, and will be incorporated into Governor Ivey's *Strong Start, Strong Finish* Initiative as part of the Governor's focus on apprenticeships and work-based learning programs. The purpose of the program is to establish a pipeline for diverse talent between Alabama's HBCUs and employers. Eligible HBCU students will have the opportunity to receive invaluable hands-on work experience within their fields of study in both the public and private sectors.

How does it work? The HBCU Co-Op Program is a three-way partnership between GOMA, participating Alabama HBCUs, and employers in the public and private sectors. Students will be required to complete two to three work semesters in order to gain a sense of professional experience in the area of their major(s). Students may alternate between semesters of classes and professional work, working between 15 and 40 hours per week, while receiving an hourly salary for the work they perform. Students will receive professional evaluations, and will be required to complete a final project at the conclusion of the program.

Eligibility requirements Students must be at least 18 years of age, enrolled at one of the fourteen (14) Alabama HBCUs; must have completed the first year of study for 4-year students, and complete at least one 15-week term for 2-year students. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in their field of study is required. Eligible areas of study include all science, technology, engineering, and math related academic concentrations, as well as liberal arts majors.

Application process GOMA will distribute the co-op application with employer job descriptions to each of the fourteen Alabama HBCUs. HBCUs will nominate eligible students to apply directly to GOMA.

For more information, please contact us at (334) 353-2113 or email us at info@goma.alabama.gov.