

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools

**FROM:** Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** August 21, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Announcement of Unpaid Experiential Learning Program Continuation

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Labor (CT-DOL) is continuing the Unpaid Experiential Learning Program (UELP) for the 2023–24 school year.

The purpose of the UELP is to enable local education agencies (LEAs), individual high schools and their business and industry partners to place students in unpaid work-based learning opportunities for up to 120 hours per year. The approved UELP application is a waiver that supports LEAs' efforts to expand and build new pathways for students, while allowing for career skill development in an authentic setting.

All briefing and mandatory safety workshops will be virtual this year. The CSDE is hosting five (5) briefing sessions. To participate in the UELP, you or your designee must attend one (1) of the five (5) briefing sessions. The sessions are:

- August 31, 2023, 11:00 11:30 a.m.
  Join on your computer, mobile application, or room device.
  Click here to join the meeting
- August 31, 2023, 2:30 3:00 p.m.
  Join on your computer, mobile application, or room device.
  Click here to join the meeting
- September 5, 2023, 2:00 2:30 p.m.
  Join on your computer, mobile application, or room device.
  Click here to join the meeting
- September 6, 2023, 8:00 8:30 a.m.
  Join on your computer, mobile application, or room device.
  Click here to join the meeting
- September 11, 2023, 2:00 2:30 p.m.
  Join on your computer, mobile application, or room device.
  Click here to join the meeting

All district staff placing students in worksites must attend one (1) of the three (3) available UELP Student Safety Workshops on September 25, 2023, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., September 27, 2023, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. or September 28, 2023, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. UELP Student Safety Workshop links will be sent to participants who participated in the UELP briefing.

Should you need additional information regarding the 2023–24 UELP, please contact Harold Mackin at 860-713-6779 or <a href="mailto:Harold.Mackin@ct.gov">Harold.Mackin@ct.gov</a>.

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