

## **CEIA Position on Unpaid Internships**

CEIA aims to provide resources and guidance for educators and employers engaging in internship programs. This organization actively supports student participation in valuable internship experiences which offer dedicated supervision, meaningful and educationally relevant work, and opportunities for mentoring and networking. These experiences are to be of value to both parties, allowing for purposeful and effective outcomes.

Though employers decide if an internship will be funded, educators determine when an internship is credit worthy. CEIA supports the fact that academic credit is not the same as compensation. CEIA recognizes that there are also stipulations and guidelines which may impact financial compensation. All employers are strongly encouraged to follow rules and regulations pertaining to local and federal labor laws when determining remuneration options. Knowing there is not one universal procedure within the higher education community for documenting internships, employers are encouraged to acknowledge each educational institution's policies in order to best serve the student.

July 2011