

Talent Leaders Connection Hub for Colleges

Strategic Conversations Between Career Leaders and Hiring Employers

A small-group conversation experience designed to connect career center leaders and employers in meaningful dialogue about early-career hiring, partnership, and talent strategy.

Participating employers include recruiters and university relations leaders responsible for early-career hiring strategy.

The Challenge

Conference networking is valuable—but meaningful conversations between colleges and employers are often limited.

Quick introductions.

Crowded receptions.

Little time to explore real workforce challenges.

What Makes This Experience Different

- **Curated Participation:** An intentional mix of colleges and employers focused on early-career hiring
- **Small-Group Conversations:** Designed to support meaningful, focused dialogue
- **Topic-Focused Dialogue:** Participants engage in discussions shaped by both pre-selected and participant-submitted topics
- **Strategic Focus:** Conversations center on employer expectations, internship pipelines, partnership models, and more
- **Lasting Connections:** Post-event resources, including employer and college guides, help participants continue conversations and build partnerships

How the Talent Leaders Connection Hub Works

Participants join a series of small-group conversations designed to exchange ideas, share perspectives, and explore opportunities.

- Each discussion group includes 6–8 participants
- Participants select up to three discussion topics in advance
- Topics focus on early-career hiring trends, partnership models, and workforce strategy

What Happens in the Room

Participants rotate through a series of small-group conversations designed to bring career leaders and employers into direct conversation.

During the experience:

- Small-group discussions bring together 6-8 career leaders and employer talent leaders around a shared topic
- Quick introductions and short connection windows allow participants to share priorities, continue discussions, and plan follow-up meetings
- Structured dialogue supports balanced participation and practical exchange

Participants leave with high-quality connections and actionable insight.

Why Career Center Leaders Participate

Participants gain the opportunity to:

- Be featured in a directory of college participants, including academic majors
- Connect with employers engaged in recruiting early-career talent
- Gain insight into evolving hiring trends and employer expectations
- Explore partnership opportunities beyond traditional recruiting
- Position their institution as a strategic workforce partner

What Participants Take Away

Career center leaders leave with:

- Access to a directory of employers who participated in the Connection Hub
- Direct insight into how employers are evolving early-career hiring strategies
- New ideas for strengthening internship and recruiting partnerships
- Peer perspectives from other institutions navigating similar challenges
- Connections that support future employer collaboration
- Inclusion in a searchable directory of participating colleges, organized by academic majors

Participation Options

Participation is intentionally limited to maintain meaningful dialogue among a small group of career center and employer leaders.

Champion Level: \$1,250

- Two sponsor registrations to the Talent Leaders Connection Hub
- One NACE26 Virtual registration pass
- Acknowledgement on the NACE26 microsite

- Acknowledgment in general session walk-in presentation slides
- Personalized social media graphic
- Exclusive Connection Hub Sponsor ribbon

Contributor Level: \$500

- One sponsor registration to the Talent Leaders Connection Hub
- Acknowledgment in general session walk-in presentation slides
- Personalized social media graphic
- Exclusive Connection Hub Sponsor ribbon

\$250 for additional attendees at the contributor or champion levels. One-day or full-conference registration is required for all sponsors.

Employer participation is included with a one-day or full-conference registration and requires advance registration.

The Outcome

The Talent Leaders Connection Hub transforms traditional networking into strategic dialogue—helping colleges and employers build stronger partnerships that support the next generation of talent.

Event Details

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

10 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. MT

Ballroom Atrium, Colorado Convention Center

Participants engage in three small-group conversations with short networking windows between sessions. Coffee, beverages, and light food will be available throughout the experience.

Powered by Braintdate Technology

The Talent Leaders Connection Hub is supported by the Braintdate platform, enabling participants to explore discussion topics, connect with peers, and manage their conversation schedule through the event mobile app.

Sponsors and pre-registered attendees will receive instructions to download the NACE26 mobile app, which includes access to the Braintdate platform, in May 2026.

Questions?

We'd love to talk! Contact us at businessdevelopment@naceweb.org to learn more!