



Velocity Prep

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Velocity Prep was created in 2001 in direct response to industry and education leaders' desire to see high school students gain relevant work experience and exposure to career paths available in Central Texas. Velocity Prep engages a group of 20 high school students in 160 hours of professional work.

Velocity Prep is a four-week summer program in which students form a consulting company and are paid a stipend for their work. Skillpoint's industry or community partner serves as the Velocity Prep client, "employing" the students as a consulting company to tackle an issue of importance to the client. Working with the client and other experts, students research, plan, develop, and present project deliverables to address the client's real-world problem in a hands-on setting, both on the school campus as well as at the client's workplace.

The goal of the program is to immerse students in activities and tasks that mirror those found in a real business environment. During the Velocity Prep program students:

- meet with business and community leaders
- learn to communicate and work effectively in teams
- create criteria and boundaries for their project
- tour companies and other relevant sites
- research real-world topics
- complete a final report
- present their work to the public
- get paid for their hard work!

RECENT PROJECTS

2007 SOUNDScape: Consult with SXSW Film Festival to improve the film-going experience at alternative venues.

2008 GAME On!: Consult with NCSoft on a Marketing/PR and distribution plan for a new video game title.

2009 LISTEN Up!: Consult with the African-American Men & Boys Harvest Foundation to produce PSAs and a promotional video

2010 ROBOTech: Consult with the UT Dept. of Mechanical Engineering to create an autonomous robot that can support a human torso.

2011 ROBOTech: Consult with the UT Dept. of Mechanical Engineering to design a Search-and Rescue robot in the event of a natural disaster.

2011 GREENTech: Consult with the Texas Engineering Experiment Station to design an off-grid energy solution for 15 homes in the Texas Colonias.

2011 GAME On!: Consult with AMD to design a game highlighting green features at AMD's Lonestar Campus.

ABOUT THE TECHNOLOGY & EDUCATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (TEEC)

The TEEC is a consortium of high tech industry executives and education leaders engaged in addressing the education and workforce development needs of the engineering and technology-based industries in Central Texas. The Council is coordinated by Skillpoint Alliance, a 501c3 non-profit that builds partnerships among industry, education and the community, leading to college and career success for Central Texans, while meeting employers' needs for a qualified workforce.