



## TIPS Student Internship Program

### What is TIPS?

TIPS is a student-centered, interest-based internship program designed for youth ages 16-plus. It is comprised of three core components: a 20-hour pre-employment skills course, a 40-hour unpaid internship with a local employer, and possible paid employment upon successful completion of the course and internship. Students are also awarded academic credit by their high school or high school completion program once they have satisfied the program requirements of the course and internship.

### TIPS Update 2013

For the last 6 years, TIPS has been successfully operating in 6 regions: Chittenden County, Franklin/Grand Isle Counties, Bennington County, Rutland County, Central Vermont, and the Upper Valley. All of these regions have a regional TIPS Coordinator, partially supported through the Vermont Department of Labor. We have been successful at securing this investment for the State for the last 6 years and anticipate continuing to do so.

This year, we brought on Danville High School in the Northeast Kingdom to coordinate their own TIPS program within their school. Navicate trained a teacher within the school to teach the 20 hour class and implement internships. Danville will be piloting this in Fall 2014 through their advisory system for 11th and 12th graders.

We have also had interest and conversations about TIPS with Stowe High School in Lamoille County and Mt. Abraham Union High School and Middlebury Union High School in Addison County. These schools would like to integrate TIPS into their curriculum, but do not have the internal capacity currently to do so. Navicate will be looking for resources to see how we can help build capacity within these two regions to hire a regional coordinator.

In addition, Navicate has been working with the high school completion system to integrate TIPS internships into high school graduation plans for out-of-school youth. Across the state, we have been supplementing the TIPS curriculum with the national Work Keys model and then finding and implementing internships for these students. This arrangement has created a new revenue resource for us as we are able to bill the State for our services.

“Our mission is to improve the educational success and career prospects for youth through school, business and community partnerships.”