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For Immediate Release

SRNS Welcomes Nearly 175 Student Interns to Advance Key Missions *Next-Generation Talent Gains Experience in Critical Operations and National Security*

AIKEN, S.C. – (June 25, 2025) – Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) has launched its highly anticipated 2025 Summer Internship Program, bringing together 173 top-performing students from across 18 U.S. states and Canada, drawn from 53 colleges and technical institutions.

“This opportunity could create a lifelong career at SRS,” said Bryan Ortnier, SRNS Senior Vice President, Workforce Services and Talent Management. “The SRNS Internship Program remains a critical tool for building tomorrow’s workforce. Students will apply innovative ideas to complex problems, expand existing university and college relationships, and establish new ones.”

The interns began their experience on June 10 with an executive meet-and-greet, providing a unique chance to connect with SRNS leadership and gain firsthand insight into the company’s strategic priorities, expectations and mission-driven work at the Savannah River Site (SRS).



Nearly 175 interns connected with SRNS’ executive and senior leaders during the meet-and-greet. Jim Dawkins, SRNS Executive Vice President and NNSA Chief Operations Officer discusses the Site’s critical missions that support the Nuclear Security Enterprise.

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Mike Swain, SRNS Senior Vice President and Nuclear Operations Officer, right, and James Therrell, Mission Planning Manager for Environmental Management Operations connect with intern Olivia Ruszczyk, a senior Mechanical Engineering student at New Mexico State University.

During his opening remarks, Dr. Jeff Griffin, the newly appointed SRNS President and Chief Executive Officer, said, "This year alone, SRNS received nearly 4,500 applications, and each of you is among the 173 chosen to be part of this program. The future workforce we need is represented by this diverse and talented group."

SRNS began the program in 2009 to build a pipeline of future leaders in national defense, environmental stewardship and nuclear nonproliferation. Over the next five years, SRNS plans to hire approximately 2,000 additional employees to meet the growing demands of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) missions.

Jim Dawkins, SRNS Executive Vice President and NNSA Chief Operations Officer, discussed the Site's critical missions that support the Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE). "You're not just interns; you are future leaders joining a 75-year legacy of service, innovation and national security. What you do today matters, and securing America's future is our collective responsibility. The experiences you gain here can open doors across the NSE, with potential opportunities at seven other sites nationwide. This is a great starting point for your career."



SRNS Senior Vice President NNSA Tritium Operations and Programs JC Epting shares job opportunities supporting Tritium missions with newly hired interns.

Felicia Hartzog, SRNS Internship Program Coordinator, added, "This program is a bridge to full-time careers with SRNS, exemplified by last year's success where 61 interns received full-service positions and 25 transitioned into apprenticeships. The talent and passion displayed by this cohort are truly inspiring and something to be proud of."

The program offers a 12-week immersive experience, allowing interns to explore various potential careers, including engineering, computer science, physical sciences, business services, communications, site services, information technology, and nuclear materials control.

Rachael Ogundare, a junior at the University of Georgia and IT Business Analytics Intern, said, "SRNS is incredibly welcoming. I've been exposed to various business aspects and have explored different programs, solidifying my interest in analytics while also diving

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into project management. Working on projects like process optimization and visualizations has given me valuable insights into the critical missions at SRS.”



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focused on progress rather than just tradition,” said Reid Wooten, SRS Fire Department intern and senior at The Citadel. “This internship is helping me find my path in fire services and understand the industrial side of firefighting. I’ve already earned my national Hazardous Materials Technician certification, and I’m excited about the opportunity to do meaningful work and potentially return next summer.”

Dr. Griffin concluded the event by encouraging the interns to make the most of their time at SRNS. “You’re not just here to fill a summer; it’s about building a bridge to full-time careers. Engage fully, learn relentlessly, and contribute boldly. When this internship ends, we hope it’s just the beginning of your journey with us.”

SRNS is committed to developing the next generation of leaders in national defense and environmental stewardship. Each intern will play a vital role in advancing the Site’s missions, which are crucial to the Department of Defense and the NNSA. For more information about the program, click [here](#).

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor and HII partnership company, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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“I interned here two summers ago supporting Solid Waste Management, and I’m thrilled to gain new experience in software automation testing — a whole new avenue for me,” said Hannah Ho, Site Software Engineering Intern and a senior at the University of Georgia. “Currently, I’m assisting in the development of a site portal for web apps, focusing on creating unit and Cypress tests from the database to the user interface. My goal is to secure full-time work by the end of this internship and follow in my parents’ footsteps at SRS.”

“It’s refreshing to see young leadership in the fire department