

Talent Enhancement Program

For Innovative Companies & Entrepreneurs

The strength of the Ann Arbor business environment begins and ends with the talent of the people in the region. Innovative businesses flourish here because of the diversity, depth of knowledge, and sheer numbers of talented, well-educated people. The Talent Enhancement Program at SPARK connects that talent with opportunity. We're here to help your business grow by connecting you to the right person or training resource at the right time.

Recruiting Talent

SPARK can provide you with incredible access to key talent for your executive, scientific and professional needs. We have thousands of candidates viewing our website, subscribing to our weekly newsletter or attending our events. Please let us connect them to you!

- **Recruiting Support Services** – SPARK and Washtenaw County ETCS/Corporate Services can manage the recruiting process for you. "Team Talent" can advertise, screen candidates and set up interviews with the hiring manager.
- **Job Posting** – Via our website, you can submit a job posting which will be featured on our website which is viewed by thousands of opportunity seekers each week. We also send out the company name and job title during our weekly "Talent Search" email blasts to a large list of opportunity seekers that are in our database.
- **Attracting Out-of-Town Talent** – Are you bringing in a candidate that isn't familiar with what the region has to offer? SPARK can help set up free tours of the Ann Arbor area, and can provide customized information to families, and access to theatre and event tickets to help recruit key talent from out of the area.
- **Executive Recruiters** – Are you in need of highly specialized talent requiring the use of an executive recruiter? SPARK has a broad network of contacts and can make referrals for you.

College Talent Connections

SPARK wants to facilitate keeping Michigan college graduates in Michigan. We can connect you to one of our State Universities, and we can also feature your company and opportunities in communications to college students.

Training Programs

Funding for various Workforce Investment Act training programs may be available. Some programs must be initiated prior to a candidate being hired, so be sure to explore this opportunity early in the staff planning process.

Salary and Workforce Data

SPARK has access to many databases and sources for employment data.

Entrepreneur Fellowship Program

SPARK coordinates a program to get University of Michigan MBA students from the Ross School of Business integrated into the local start-up community.



Events

SPARK hosts regular events to help connect key talent to companies.

- **Hot Shots** – Career Connections at Melange – This event is an upscale networking event held monthly. Candidates and company representatives mingle in a fun and relaxed environment on the last Tuesday of the month, except December.
- **Mingle & Match** – Each quarter, SPARK hosts an event where 10-15 entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas and then have the opportunity to meet with interested talent in a structured networking process.

Monthly Talent Update Newsletter

Sign up for an informative monthly newsletter for companies hiring executives that announces new programs and provides key updates and reminders.

Please let us help you find the talent to grow. For additional information about any of the following programs, please contact Ann Arbor SPARK at 734.761.9317 or Talent@AnnArborUSA.org.

SPARK will be the driving force in establishing the Ann Arbor Region as a desired place for business expansion and location...by identifying and meeting the needs of business at every stage, from those that are established to those working to successfully commercialize innovations.

