

# CASE STUDY

## BIOLAUNCH AT CONNCAT, NEW HAVEN, CT

BioLaunch is a program hosted by the Connecticut Center for Arts & Technology (ConnCAT) and designed to provide laboratory instruction and internships to prepare individuals for high-demand, high-quality careers in the field of biotechnology. BioLaunch is a new, three-year pilot project offered by the Office of Workforce Strategy in collaboration with the Office of the Governor and the General Assembly.



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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BioLaunch is a workforce training program designed to train and prepare New Haven residents for a career in the region's growing biotechnology industry. The program prepares individuals for careers as technicians in biotechnology, life sciences laboratories, or research programs. Training is four months long, followed by a paid internship with a local biopharmaceutical company. During the six-month program, students are provided with a monthly stipend in addition to childcare and transportation support. The program intends to train two cohorts of 15 participants annually.

## POPULATION SERVED

The program serves non-college bound New Haven residents between the ages of 18 - 26.

## WHAT STANDS OUT: THE BIOLAUNCH APPROACH

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### A TRILOGY FOR SUCCESS

Founder Craig Crews, Ph.D. uses the metaphor of three legs of a stool to describe BioLaunch's approach. The first leg is developing a program influenced by industry needs and partners motivated to solve its workforce development challenges. Currently the program has ten biotech companies informing and guiding the curriculum. The second leg is partnering with workforce development experts to design a successful curriculum and program. These partners include ConnCAT, Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, Elm Street Ventures, and others. The third is offering training in a state-of-the-art laboratory, centrally located in Downtown New Haven.



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT THROUGHOUT TRAINING AND INTERNSHIPS

The program is funded to support full-time trainers, offer bi-weekly stipends, paid internships, and provide support for childcare and transportation.

### AMENDABLE HOURS

The training program runs Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 2:30pm, a schedule that is comparable with children's school hours, allowing caretakers to be home in time for their children's arrival from school.