

Career Fair Article

Representatives from more than 30 corporations, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations seeking to diversify their workforce met with hundreds of deaf and hard-of-hearing students at the 2024 NTID Career Fair on Thursday, Oct. 17. Hosted annually during Disability Employment Awareness Month, 2024 marked the xx year for the career fair.

Among this year's employers were Amtrak, Collins Aerospace, Dow, PNC, USAID, ZP Better Together, and many more. They connected with deaf and hard-of-hearing students and alumni, who were seeking internships, co-op opportunities, or full-time employment.

Interpreters at every booth ensured smooth communication between recruiters and job seekers. More than half of the participating organizations sent RIT/NTID alums as recruiters, serving as inspiring role models for current students.

“The RIT/NTID Career Fair is a prime example of how our students and graduates are making their mark in the workforce,” said John Macko, director of NTID's Center on Employment. “We work hard to prepare our students for the workforce. We also partner closely with employers to help them understand how to successfully integrate deaf and hard-of-hearing employees into their teams. This career fair demonstrates how well our system is working.”

In 2023, 270 RIT/NTID students completed co-op experiences, and 96 percent of those seeking jobs after graduation found one within a year. As part of this year's event, Dow and Procter & Gamble (P&G) were recognized with NTID Outstanding Employer Partner Awards, acknowledging their exceptional efforts in hiring and supporting deaf and hard-of-hearing students and graduates through co-op and employment opportunities.