

# Start your project sooner.

How to invite your employer  
connections to Riipen FuturePath and  
start working on real projects today.

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## Why wait? Start your project sooner.

You don't have to wait for a match. With Riipen FuturePath, you can take charge of your career development by inviting employers you already know to join the program and start a project right away. No waiting, no hassle; just real experience and career-ready skills.

## Key benefits.

- **Choose your project:** Work on something that interests you and aligns with your goals.
- **Work with familiar faces:** Collaborate with people in the industry you already know and trust.
- **Start now:** Don't wait for a match, start building your portfolio right away.

## Your checklist.

Starting your project is simple and straightforward. Use this quick checklist to guide you through the process of inviting your employer and getting started on a project you care about. Just follow these steps, and Riipen will handle the rest!

1. **Identify someone who could use help:** Think of employers you know or organizations that could benefit from your skills.
2. **Reach out and share Riipen FuturePath:** Use the conversation prompts or email template to introduce the program.
3. **Share the interest forms:** Use the [Student Interest Form](#) or the [Employer Interest Page](#) to connect your employer to FuturePath.
4. **Riipen handles the rest:** Once connected, Riipen will take care of onboarding and matching you to a project.

**For questions and support:** The little avocado in the bottom right of your screen on the Riipen platform directs you right to our team! Please feel free to follow the prompts and our team is there to answer any questions you may have! Alternatively, you can email us at [futurepath@riipen.com](mailto:futurepath@riipen.com).

## Unlock more opportunities.

With Riipen FuturePath, you're not just waiting for a match; you're creating your own opportunities. By inviting someone you already know, you get to work on a project that fits your goals and timeline, without the uncertainty of waiting for a project to come your way.

- **Flexibility:** You get to define the project. Whether it's research, content creation, or social media management, the choice is yours.
- **Autonomy:** Take control of your work and career development by choosing a project that excites you.
- **Stronger collaboration:** Working with familiar people can make the process smoother and more enjoyable, leading to better results.
- **Faster impact:** By starting your project right away, you'll gain real-world experience faster, which helps you build a stronger portfolio.

# Getting started is easy.

The process of inviting your employer and starting your project is straightforward. You don't need to handle everything, Riipen does the heavy lifting.

1. **Reach out to someone you know:** Think of employers in your personal network who might need help. Use the “How to ask” prompts or email templates provided on the next pages of this guide.
2. **Connect them to FuturePath:**
  - a. If your employer is interested and ready to get started, submit their details using the [Student Interest Form](#) (with their permission).
  - b. If they prefer to follow up themselves, simply share the [Employer Interest Page](#) link so they can sign up directly.
3. **Riipen takes over:** We'll handle onboarding, explain the program, and answer any questions they might have.
4. **Employer posts the project:** Once they're onboard, your employer will post the project and define the tasks.
5. **Get matched and start working:** After the project is posted, we'll match you with it quickly, and you'll be able to start your project in no time!

## Who to ask.

You don't have to search far, the people in your network are the best place to start. Whether they're family, friends, or community members, chances are there's someone who could benefit from your help.

- **Family and friends:** Business owners, side hustlers, or people with small businesses who could use support.
- **Local businesses:** Cafés, shops, or local vendors who might need help with tasks like marketing, operations, or customer service.
- **Community organizations:** Nonprofits or charities where you've volunteered or supported, many of which could use an extra set of hands.
- **Campus connections:** Mentors, professors, or your career center staff who may know employers seeking help for projects or tasks.

## Where to ask.

The way you reach out matters. Think about how your employer is most likely to respond. Here are some options based on your relationship.

- **In-person:** Meet them at their business, a community event, or as part of your regular routine. A quick, friendly conversation is often the best.
- **Phone:** If you have their number, a phone call is an easy way to introduce the program. Just make sure to follow up with an email.
- **Email:** This is a more formal way to explain Riipen FuturePath. Be clear about what it offers and include a simple call to action.
- **Social media:** Reach out through platforms you're already connected on, such as LinkedIn or Instagram. A short, friendly message can work wonders!

## How to ask.

Introducing Riipen FuturePath to employers doesn't need to be complicated. Here are some conversation prompts for in-person or phone calls, along with an email template if you want to keep things formal and professional.

Starting the conversation can feel intimidating, but remember: you're offering a helpful and valuable opportunity for your employer. Keep it light and friendly, and they'll appreciate the initiative. The key is to focus on the benefits they'll receive, like extra help with a project, and a subsidized rate.

The rest is simple, just share the forms and let Riipen take care of the details.

## How to ask.

**Conversation prompts:** These are quick and easy talking points you can use to start a conversation. Don't worry about getting every word right. Just focus on the main idea and make it feel natural.

### **Local businesses:**

*"I am part of FuturePath, a government-funded program that connects students like me with businesses to work on real projects. The program helps businesses grow or solve challenges, and employers only pay \$11/hour. Can I share your contact info with the Riipen FuturePath team so they can follow up and give you more details?"*

### **Family or friends:**

*"I have joined FuturePath, a program that connects students with businesses. I know you run [X business], and I thought this could be a great way for me to help while gaining professional experience. Employers pay just \$11/hour, and the government covers the rest. Want me to connect you with the team so they can share more info?"*

### **Community organizations you have volunteered with:**

*"I recently joined FuturePath, a program that connects students with businesses for real-world projects. I thought it could be a great fit for [name of organization] to get some support with [specific task]. The program is government-funded, so it is affordable, only \$11/hour. Would you be interested in learning more? I can share your info with the FuturePath team."*

# How to ask.

**Email template:** If you prefer a formal written introduction, here is a template you can use to email the employer directly.

**Subject:** Introduction to a program that could support your business.

**Body:**

Hello [Employer's Name],

I hope you are doing well. I wanted to quickly share an opportunity that might interest you. I have recently joined Riipen FuturePath, a program that connects students like me with businesses to work on real-world projects.

The way it works is simple: businesses identify an area where they need extra support (whether it is growing their brand, solving a challenge, or reaching new customers), and Riipen FuturePath matches those projects with students who have the right skills to help.

Since I am in the program and have skills in [XYZ e.g., social media, web design, finance], I would love to contribute to your business through Riipen FuturePath. It would be an excellent way for me to gain experience while helping you.

The best part is that it is affordable; employers only pay \$11/hour, and the program covers the rest through government funding.

If you are interested in learning more, I can either submit your contact information to the Riipen FuturePath team (with your permission), or you can fill out this form directly to get started: [insert Employer Interest Form link].

Let me know if you have any questions or if you would like more details. I am happy to chat further!

Best,  
[Your Name]



Real projects.  
Paid experience.  
Career-ready skills.

Start building your future, today.

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