



College of Business

TENNESSEE TECH

Our mission is to develop career-ready leaders



NACE 8

PRL follows the eight skills that the National Association for Colleges and Employers (NACE) says employers look for in college graduates. The eight skills are career and self development, communication, critical thinking, equity and inclusion, leadership, professionalism, teamwork, and technology.

PRL

— COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Professional Readiness and Leadership is a program in the College of Business that provides resources to assist students as they learn to tap into their potential as young professionals, developing leadership, etiquette, and other professional skills to enhance their career readiness.



LOCATION

FOUNDATION HALL 130 1105 N. PEACHTREE CAMPUS BOX 5023 COOKEVILLE, TN 38505





(931) 372 - 6189
PRL@TNTECH.EDU
TNTECH.EDU/BUSINESS/READINESS









Resumes

Students can make appointments to get help with their resumes as well as cover letters and LinkedIn accounts.

Headshots

Professional headshot appointments provide students with appropriate profile pictures for platforms such as LinkedIn and Handshake.

Business Professional Closet

The Business Professional
Closet functions as a
library of clothes for
students to check out for
professional events such
as interviews and career
fairs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

INTERNSHIP INSIGHTS

Every other week, College of Business students receive Internship Insights: a list of the top 10 internships in their major. They are also posted on a bulletin board in the College of Business. All the internships promoted are in Tennessee or remote and are paid. Many students have gotten internships from Internship Insights.





LEADERSHIP LIBRARY

PRL houses the Leadership Library, a collection of educational and leadership books that students can check out to read and learn from. As of October 2025, PRL has 270 books in genres ranging from career and self-development to personal finance.

THE BRIEFCASE

Every Monday, all College of Business students, faculty, and staff receive The Briefcase. This email informs them of upcoming events, student organization meetings, and reminders for faculty and staff. It also features the top three students on Level Up for the month, along with a link to the full College of Business Calendar.





A Place For Everyone

THE PRL OFFICE IS A SPACE FOR STUDENTS.

Students often use the PRL office to hang out, study, and work on group projects. PRL also uses its office space for various events, such as Suit Sale, workshops, and seminars.

The PRL staff takes great care of the office, making sure it is comfortable and inviting for students. In August 2024, PRL entered the campus-wide Spirit Days competition and decorated the office with the theme of "making professionalism groovy." PRL won third overall as well as fan favorite.











CAMP COB PREPARES FRESHMEN FOR THEIR FIRST DAY OF CLASSES.





STUDENTS ROTATED
BETWEEN 5 STATIONS:
CITL, LEVEL UP, TENT
BUILDING,
TECHNOLOGY 101, AND
CAREER READINESS.

THIS EVENT GAVE
STUDENTS THE
OPPORTUNITY TO GET
TO KNOW EACH OTHER
WHILE ALSO LEARNING
SKILLS THEY NEED TO BE
SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS.





AT SUIT SALE, STUDENTS CAN PURCHASE SHIRTS, BLOUSES, SLACKS, DRESSES, BLAZERS, SUITS, SHOES, AND MORE FOR AFFORDABLE PRICES.





OUR COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AMBASSADORS ARE ALSO THERE TO HELP STUDENTS SHOP!



BREAKING THE

BANK!

Events and Programming







OUR STUDENTS
HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
GO TO CAREER
FAIRS AND
INTERNSHIP
CARNIVALS.

CAREER FAIR
WORKSHOP TEACHES
STUDENTS THE BEST TIPS,
TRICKS, AND PRACTICES
TO IMPLEMENT WHEN IN
A CAREER FAIR SETTING.



MULTIPLE STUDENTS
HAVE ATTENDED A
CAREER FAIR
WORKSHOP, GONE TO A
CAREER FAIR, AND HAVE
BEEN OFFERED JOBS OR
INTERNSHIPS!



THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS OFFERS SEVERAL STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES!



STUDENTS WHO
ATTEND THE STUDY
ABROAD
SHOWCASE LEARN
ABOUT THESE
OPPORTUNITIES!

FACULTY MEMBERS
INVOLVED IN
STUDY ABROAD
PRESENT ABOUT
THE TRIPS THEY
HELP PLAN AND
LEAD.







STUDENTS
LEARN IN A LABSTYLE SETTING
HOW TO DRESS
AND DINE LIKE A
PROFESSIONAL.



DRESS 4 & DINE

THIS BETTER
PREPARES
STUDENTS FOR
PROFESSIONAL
DINNERS AND
FORMAL MEALS.

EACH TABLE HAS A STUDENT LEADER, OFFERING STUDENTS ONE-ON-ONE ASSISTANCE AS NEEDED.







STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO BUILD BETTER
CONNECTIONS WITH FACULTY AND STAFF AS THEY LEARN ABOUT THEM OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM.

LET'S TALK BUSINESS



SOME PREVIOUS TOPICS:

- BROUGHT UP ON BLUEGRASS BASKETBALL
- BITING OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW
- BANKING, NOT JUST FOR BANKERS
- DECRYPTING CRYPTO
- IS AI READY FOR PRIME TIME IN THE STOCK MARKET?



Events and Programming







INTERNSHIP
CARNIVAL GIVES
COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS STUDENTS
A CHANCE TO
NETWORK WITH
COMPANIES.

UNLIKE AT LARGER
CAREER FAIRS, EVERY
COMPANY AT
INTERNSHIP
CARNIVAL IS
LOOKING FOR
BUSINESS STUDENTS.





STUDENTS HAVE FOUND INTERNSHIPS AT INTERSHIP CARNIVAL.





THE DISNEY
COLLEGE
PROGRAM (DCP) IS
A SEMESTER-LONG
OPPORTUNITY FOR
STUDENTS.



DURING THEIR DCP, STUDENTS LIVE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, AND WORK AT WALT DISNEY WORLD.

THE DCP
INFORMATION
SESSION IS LED BY
STUDENTS WHO
ARE DCP ALUMNI.





DISNEP COLLEGE PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION





THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS TURNS INTO A MINI GOLF COURSE FOR AN EVENING!





THE OPTION TO
COMPETE OR
PLAY FOR FUN IN
THE DEAN'S CUP!

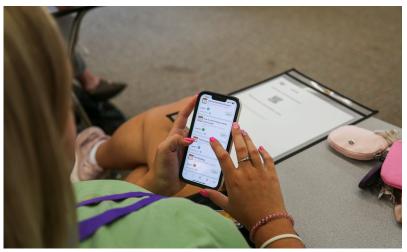
THIS EVENT BUILDS
COMMUNITY
AMONG OUR
STUDENTS, FACULTY,
AND STAFF.







AN ACCOMPLISHMENT TRACKING APP







Digital Portfolio

As students complete tasks on Level Up, the app creates a digital portfolio of everything the student has been involved with. Students are able to utilize this resource in interviews so that potential employers can see their involvement outside the classroom.

Celebration

Level Up provides PRL insights into student achievements. This information allows PRL to recognize students for their accomplishments through leaderboards and student spotlights.

Competition

Completing tasks allows students to earn points and increase their position on the leaderboard. This competition encourages students to complete tasks and Level Up.



PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2025 Pathways Conference

At the 2025 Pathways Conference sponsored by Suitable, Tennessee Tech's College of Business won 4 awards!

The Level Up program won the Most Creative Marketing Strategy and Outstanding New Program awards.

Carter Lay, Level Up Coordinator, was recognized as the **2025 Student Speaker of Distinction** and gave a 15-minute speech about the importance of getting involved through the Level Up program.

Mrs. Sherrie Cannon, Assistant Director of the Professional Readiness and Leadership Program, was recognized with a **Student Advocate Award** and participated in the Business Education Panel where they discussed "Creating Leaders of Tomorrow."





INTERNSHIPS & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Part of PRL's mission is to prepare students for experiential learning opportunities as well as share when these opportunities become available. Experiential learning opportunities allow students to apply what they learn in the classroom to the real world.

Internships

Internships give students the opportunity to explore their future career before they graduate. The following are student testimonials about their internship experiences.

Rylee Savage

"This experience has been invaluable in bridging the gap between theory and practice. I'm able to apply what I've learned, ask questions, and most importantly, gain real-world experience. This internship has played a crucial role in my career journey, offering me a chance to get my foot in the door and experience the field for myself, allowing me to decide whether it aligns with my goals."



Riley Scoggins

"My internship helped me grow by giving me real-world experience working with technical teams and large-scale data projects. I learned how to communicate with very technical team members, manage responsibilities across multiple projects, and stay organized in a fast-paced environment. I also gained hands-on experience with tools like Power Bl and other advanced analytics. Simply talking to people every day about different projects allowed me to develop my soft skills. Overall, it gave me a better understanding of what I want to do in my career and gave me an insight into the corporate world."



INTERNSHIPS & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning opportunities allow students to learn skills and concepts outside of the classroom.

Leadership on Location



Leadership the Disney Way gave students the opportunity to learn marketing, economic, technological, and leadership concepts in Walt Disney World. Students went behind the scenes of Epcot and met with Disney's Imagination Campus.

Teamwork the Disney Way allowed students to experience Disney Cruise Lines and Walt Disney World Parks, providing a deeper understanding of the company's marketing and leadership. Students went behind the scenes at Disney's Hollywood Studios and met with cast members.



Toy Fair



Toy Fair was a three-day event filled with networking, exploring toy companies, and gaining insight into the business side of the toy industry. Each student was able to connect their academic major to the fair by engaging with various brands.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENT





PRL participated in the 2023 and 2024 Heating Up the Quad. In 2023, PRL won the Fan Favorite award for Mema's Fudge. In 2024, PRL won Best Dessert and Fan Favorite with Mrs. C's Key Lime Cake.

For the 2024 Spirit Days Competition, PRL decorated the office in a 1960's disco theme to honor Tommy Tech, a retired Tech mascot. PRL won the Fan Favorite award as well as 3rd place overall.





During the September 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, students that participated in Leadership the Disney Way were invited to share about what they discovered on the experiential learning trip.





Students are provided transportation to the Nashville Area Career Fair, where they can meet companies with full-time and internship opportunities.

Students also had the opportunity to attend INSITE, a conference that aims to give students pursuing a career in finance exposure to the industry and the BNY Mellon enterprise. In addition, students also learn about potential career paths and have the opportunity to network.



LEADERSHIP RETREATS















Since 2022, the College of Business has put on yearly Leadership Retreats that encourage students to step outside of their comfort zones and grow as leaders.













For more information, please request to see the Leadership Retreat booklet.