Software For Social Good
Solutions-Focused Software Development

Who We Are

Software for Social Good is an experiential learning project of Virginia Commonwealth University. Our multidisciplinary teams of undergraduate and graduate students are drawn from engineering, computer science, the arts, business innovation, and other schools and colleges at VCU.

What We Do

We teach our students tools, practices and work flows of the complete software design and development life cycle. We mentor students to work on cross-functional teams, blending user research, user experience design, and applications development into a seamless internal process. We guide our students as they obtain industry-recognized badges, certificates and other credentials. We afford our students with opportunities to apply these skills to real-world projects identified by our team members and our corporate partners and sponsors.

Our students get valuable, industry-recognized skills for their resume and earn money working on funded projects to defray their cost of education.

Our corporate partners and sponsors help build the workforce of tomorrow. Our corporate partners and sponsors help shape the direction of our projects and activities. Our partners and sponsors gain access to the results of work products of our student teams. Our sponsors and partners can mix, mingle and mentor our students as they work on projects aligned with careers in their respective professions, creating relationships in an authentic work environment.

Our motto: developing software for those who can't afford it. But we develop software tools and applications for those who CAN afford, too. Our student teams balance our portfolio of activities to include both funded and unfunded activities. We support the costs of our activities through generous gifts from our partners and sponsors.

Let's Work Together

We understand that software is a fantastic tool for addressing project or firm level challenges, but that a narrowly technical solution is not likely to fully address a situation on its own. We begin with conversation, assessing the stakeholder's landscape - their perspective and the connections they'd like to be able to develop.

Our development capacities include designing and testing user interfaces, workflows, database and dashboards, web presence, and more. We are particularly well versed in coding languages and frameworks, in design techniques, and in both survey and interview based user research.

We bring talented college students aligned in technology and tech-adjacent fields to focus on challenges in your company and profession. Many of our students must work to pay for school. Our goal is to offer them paid employment so they don't need to hold down outside jobs. Your support of VIP in the College of Engineering can make this happen. If your needs require it, we can also take on work-for-hire.

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