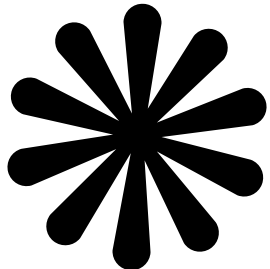


# CHEF & CRA INTERNSHIP



UConn SPP  
IPP 2025-2026



# Meet The Team



**Scott Dolch**

President & CEO  
860.278.8008 ext. 102  
dolch@ctrestaurant.org



**Yvette M. Tavares**

Vice President of Sales & Operations  
(860) 816-8762  
tavares@ctrestaurant.org



**Jennifer Conkling-Schmitz**

Foundation Director  
Connecticut Hospitality Educational  
Foundation  
860.278.8008 ext. 101  
conkling@ctrestaurant.org

# Meet The Team



**Elizabeth Barry**

Membership & Events Manager  
(860) 816-8766  
barry@ctrestaurant.org



**Katie Gerber**

Administrative Coordinator  
gerber@ctrestaurant.org



**Shannon Murphy**

Workforce Development Coordinator  
murphy@ctrestaurant.org



# AN OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION

The CRA is Connecticut's sole trade association representing the interests of our local restaurant and hospitality industries. We are a mission-driven, member-based non-profit comprised of community advocates who fight every day to ensure business owners throughout Connecticut not only survive but thrive.

Our network includes our 2,000+ members, an active and committed Board of Directors, expert government relations, communications, and legal teams, as well as our partners at the National Restaurant Association and CRA leadership and staff. Joining the CRA means being a part of this community and tapping into the resources we employ to advance the interests of our industries.



**1. Legislative Work**

**2. Nonprofit Work**

**3. Events**

**4. Public Affairs**

**5. Communications**

# FLAGSHIP EVENTS



Sponsored events are an essential part of how the CRA builds its brand and collects revenue for the legislative session. As a CRA intern, you will assist with preparing for and running these events.

In addition to the events listed here, you will also attend the ProStart Invitational, quarterly board meetings, and smaller events.



## 1.) Golf Classic

At the annual golf classic, our members gather for a day of golf, free samples, and an exceptional dinner at the end of the day.



## 2.) The CRAZIES

The CRAZIES is the biggest hospitality event of the year! The CRA honors the best in the industry with an awards ceremony and a massive celebration of over 1,400 guests.



## 3.) ProStart Invitational

Each year high school students across Connecticut come to compete in the CT ProStart Invitational, which is the premier secondary school competition focused on restaurant management and culinary arts.

# CRA INTERNSHIP

- Hands-on experience in efforts to represent 8,000+ restaurants and small businesses across CT.
- Work with our team on day-to-day duties, but the primary role of the intern will be assisting with legislative initiatives.
- Legislative responsibilities will include:
  - Assisting the legislative committee with mobilizing members
  - Bill tracking
  - Legislative update emails
  - Coordinating meetings with legislators
  - Working on federally-focused bill initiatives
- Candidates should be highly motivated, detail-oriented, dependable, and a team-oriented self-starter.



Tailor your internship experience to your interests - Whether you have a specific path in mind or prefer to be a generalist, the CRA is flexible and willing to work with you. The CRA wants to facilitate learning and growth!

Your first semester will primarily revolve around preparation for the CRAZIES, which will take place on December 9th. You will also contribute to other organizational functions throughout.

After the CRAZIES, you will be immersed in the legislative session. You will experience the inner workings of the State of Connecticut's political and policymaking process through the CRA's extensive advocacy work.

# CHEF INTERNSHIP

- Plan and promote a variety of online and in-person educational opportunities and events for high school students, high school educators and adults entering the workforce in the hospitality field.
- Intern will also be engaged in activities and events sponsored by the CRA:
  - Annual awards gala (CRAZIES)
  - Golf tournament
  - Legislative round tables
  - CRA Day at the Capitol



Greater focus on our 501c3 initiatives in workforce development



Learning about culinary educational initiatives spanning the landscape of Connecticut



Assisting with foundation events and facilitating the orchestration of operational logistics and procedural tasks

# Helpful Links

[2023 CRAZIES  
Recap Video](#)



[2022 CT ProStart  
Invitational](#)



[ctrestaurant.org](https://ctrestaurant.org) 🔍

[ctrestaurant.org/internships](https://ctrestaurant.org/internships) 🔍

---

## Instagram

- @ctrestaurantassoc
- @cthospitalityeducfoundation
- @craziesawards