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Durham hotel trio reintroduces Manager In Training Program to provide rapid career advancement opportunities

The leadership development program is designed to help tourism and hospitality graduates catapult into management positions

DURHAM, N.C., April 13, 2022 – Three hotel properties located on and near Duke University’s campus, [Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club](#), [JB Duke Hotel](#) and [The Lodge at Duke Medical Center](#), are reintroducing a highly successful Manager In Training (MIT) Program designed to assist in developing the next generation of hospitality management leaders. The 12-month rotational program allows participants to develop key foundational skills for full-service luxury hotel management through positions in each operational division, including Rooms and Food & Beverage.

Since its inception in 2002, the MIT Program has boasted a 95% success rate in elevating participants into management positions, with a majority remaining at the Inn, JB Duke Hotel or The Lodge.

“After pausing the program for the past two years, the timing is right to officially relaunch our celebrated MIT Program with a fresh take on the training and skills development offered to candidates,” said Deana Merrell, Area Director of Human Resources. “We have many successful team members that were part of the original program who are still with us today and hold leadership positions at our properties.”

Washington Duke Inn’s MIT Program is designed for those interested in hotel management positions who have completed a two-or four-year degree in Tourism/Hospitality Management.

“My MIT experience at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club has taken me farther than I could have imagined,” said Camryn Gutierrez, Assistant Guest Reception Manager at the Inn. “After meeting Deana at a career fair at East Carolina University, I was offered a position as an MIT, and I gained experience working in many positions throughout the Food & Beverage Department. The MIT Program taught me patience, precision and how to be more detail-oriented in my job.”

Participants selected for this program rotate through key hourly positions in operational departments, allowing MITs to experience and develop key foundational knowledge and skills for full-service luxury hotel management, as well as leadership development skills. Graduates are considered for leadership roles at one of the hotel properties once they complete the program.

The Washington Duke Inn, JB Duke Hotel and The Lodge offer a competitive benefits package for qualifying employees, including medical, life insurance, short- and long-term disability and a 401k program with a company match. The properties recently raised base pay for hourly employees to \$15



per hour, with onsite perks including a free meal during each shift, free onsite parking, an employee referral bonus program, and more. A recent benefits addition is two more paid holidays, Martin Luther King Jr. Day and each employee's birthday, bringing the total to eight paid holidays.

To learn more about the MIT Program and to view current employment opportunities, visit <https://dukehospitalitycareers.com>.

About Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club

Nestled on 300 acres filled with tall pines and hardwoods, the AAA Four Diamond luxury Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club is known for its prime location on the campus of Duke University, gracious service, intuitive staff and attention to detail. Amenities include the Bull Durham Bar, award-winning [Fairview Dining Room](#), Robert Trent Jones, Sr. designed 18-hole championship Duke University Golf Club and state of the art executive conference center. Follow the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About the JB Duke Hotel

Light-filled spaces abound throughout the contemporary JB Duke Hotel, named one of Durham's top five hotels by U.S. News & World Report. Located on the campus of Duke University, the property is home to The MarketPlace Restaurant, which features comfortable and contemporary kiosk-style dining, and the adjacent MarketPlace Barista Bar, which offers barista coffee service in the mornings before transforming into a relaxing hub for meals and mingling in the afternoon and evening hours. Follow the JB Duke Hotel on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About The Lodge at Duke Medical Center

Known for its thoughtful service, the boutique-style Lodge at Duke Medical Center combines modern conveniences with the comforts of home. The Lodge is situated across the street from the world-class Duke Medical Center and Durham VA Medical Center, providing visitors to the Durham area with sleek, spacious accommodations and unparalleled convenience. A complimentary shuttle is available to transport guests to Duke medical facilities, operating Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Follow the Lodge at Duke Medical Center on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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