



WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES?

- **Guest Speaker.** Guest speakers provide an opportunity for students to hear firsthand, about a particular occupation, while providing them with an overview of his/her career or business/agency. Guest speakers provide students with a true perspective of what it is like to work in the “real world.” As a guest speaker, you will share your personal experiences with students and support them in grasping the importance of planning for their future.
- **Workplace Tour.** A workplace tour is a structured career awareness activity in which students visit a workplace, learn about the business, meet employees, ask questions and observe work in progress. More than a simple field trip or site visit, a workplace tour is designed and structured to meet specific learning outcomes, be educationally rich, and build awareness of the business, it’s industry sector, its role in the economy, and the career options it provides. A workplace tour is conducted at a workplace for small groups and involves preparation and follow-up in the classroom.
- **Workplace Challenge.** A Workplace Challenge is a career preparation activity where small groups of students are engaged in solving a problem or a challenge issued by an employer in consultation with a career pathways teacher. The structure of the challenge is based upon effective project-based learning approaches, enhanced by a focus on the targeted career pathway and an authentic problem or issue faced by an employer partner. The students are engaged in career-focused, project-based learning and work as a team over time to identify possible solutions. They then create and deliver a presentation on their solution to the employer.
- **Job Shadow.** Job shadows provide a structured career activity in which students play an active role in learning. The student observes an employee at the work site to gain valuable career information. Job shadow activities typically last from three to six hours. During the job shadow experience, students will:
 - Observe a range of activities performed on the job
 - Receive information about possible future career interests
 - Gain insight into the academic, technical & personal skills needed for a particular occupation
 - Understand connections between education and careers

- **Internship.** Internships provide students the opportunity to learn by doing real work and being productively engaged in the workplace. They may provide the opportunity to work in teams, rotate through a number of departments and job functions, or to work on a project of interest and provide productive value for the employer partner. Internships are designed to give students hands-on experience in a field of interest, the chance to learn and practice occupational skills and the opportunity to learn about their career options.
- **Mentoring.** A mentor is a volunteer from the business/industrial community that helps students become aware of career opportunities and work ethics in a one-to-one relationship that goes beyond the formal obligations of a teaching or supervisory role.

Mentoring provides an avenue for developing voluntary partnership programs between employers and schools. Mentoring also gives the mentor an opportunity to have a positive influence on the development of a young person. Above all, a mentoring experience provides young people with someone to look to for support and guidance while facing the challenges of growing into adulthood.

There are three specific ways you can be of support as a mentor:

1. Advisory Board Member

(Students and teachers ask questions about your industry and advice about their programs)

2. Panel Interview Member During Mock Interviews

(Student is asked questions as if they are being interviewed for employment. Participate in multiple Interviews in one day.)

3. Informational Interview by Email/Person/Phone

(Student asks questions about your professional experience and current job. One interview.)