

Guest Speaker

Guest Speakers are industry partners who present at school sites or in classrooms, with a group of students. Guest Speakers address direct questions from students about college and career opportunities, employee expectations, and provide examples of the kinds of skills and abilities needed in industry. Guest Speakers usually present for 15-20 minutes with 15-20 minutes for questions and answers and may repeat their presentation for additional class sections.

Company Tour/Job Shadow (large group)

Classes or large groups of students walk-through industry facilities touring the daily processes of the business. A Company Tour should also include an overview of the industry and a debrief to add overall breadth to the experience. Hosts share examples of how the skills and abilities needed in the industry are used in the daily operation of the business. Company Tours are typically between 2-5 hours.

Career Fair

An opportunity for large or small groups of students to visit a variety of tables or booths set up by a variety of organizations invited to participate in the event. Career Fairs are most effective when organization's showcase specific tools or materials employers use and provide the venue for students to interact with employers about the specific opportunities and skills needed to be an effective employee. Career Fairs may last from a few hours to all day.

Industry Event

Industry events provide large or small groups of students with industry-specific information. Hosted by industry or regional organizations, industry events range in scope from panels, presentations, meetings, conferences, labor market forums, to a variety of seminars and discussions. Industry Events range from 1-2 hours to an all day event.

Job Shadow: Individual Student, Small Group of Students, or Teacher

Students and Instructors have the opportunity to shadow industry professionals at a place of business to gain first-hand experience of the skills and abilities required on the job. A job shadow is a one-on-one or a small group of students or instructor assigned to one employer between 3-25 hours. This experienced may be supervised or unsupervised by a school staff. The employer performs their normal daily routine to the extent possible and emphasizes the skills and abilities needed in the industry on a daily basis.

Mentor a Student

Career-related mentoring creates a relationship between a student and an adult where the mentor offers insight into his or her career, the necessary academic and skill/knowledge preparation, guidance, motivation, and provides assistance to the student exploring the career. Mentorships are usually long-term, lasting longer than a month, and usually do not exceed the length of a semester, intersession, or summer school session. Many mentors come to the school site and commit to a minimum of 15 hours of contact.

Provide a Project

Instructors are often looking for real-world industry-projects for their students to complete in the classroom that require a presentation, the development of a product, and/or some interaction with a team of students as they work on solutions. As industry experts support the development and progress of such a project, they may stop by the classroom, e-mail, Skype, or call in. Students may also stop by the host company location to check-in and share progress. The goal is to build students' skills and abilities as needed in the industry. The time commitment for industry typically ranges between 3-25 hours.

Feedback on a Project or Presentation

Industry experts to help review, provide perspective, and offer feedback on projects or a presentation and help assess students' attainment of industry-related skills. This may include reviewing both written and oral information and providing feedback to students. This experience is often completed with other industry professionals as part of a panel and may range from a single student presentation to multiple presentations depending on the industry expert's availability and interest. The time commitment for industry typically ranges between 1-4 hours.

Internships: Paid or Unpaid

Internships are extended on-the-job work experiences that provide students an opportunity to experience the world of work as an employee or an apprentice. Ultimately, the internship is a learning experience providing students with an opportunity to learn job skills. An internship can be paid or unpaid, and typically lasts 30 - 100+ hours. Students may or may not earn high school or community college credit as determined by individual district requirements.