

Work-Based Learning Continuum

Career Awareness

Learning ABOUT work.

Build awareness of the variety of careers available and the role of postsecondary education; broaden student options.

Sample Student Learning Outcome

Student can articulate the type of postsecondary education and training required in the career field and its importance to success in that field.

Experience Defined by:

- One-time interaction with partner(s), often for a group of students
- Designed primarily by adults to broaden student's awareness of a wide variety of careers and occupations

Experiences might include:

- Workplace tour
- Guest speaker
- Career fair
- Visit parents at work

Career Exploration

Learning ABOUT work.

Explore career options and postsecondary for the purpose of motivating students and to inform their decision making in high school and postsecondary education.

Sample Student Learning Outcome

Student can give at least two examples of how the student's individual skills and interests relate to the career field and/or occupations.

Experience Defined by:

- One-time interaction with partner(s) for a single student or small group
- Personalized to connect to emerging student interests.
- Student takes an active role in selecting and shaping the experience
- Depth in particular career fields.
- Builds skills necessary for in-depth work-based learning

Experiences might include:

- Informational interview
- Job shadow
- Virtual exchange with a partner

Career Preparation: Practicum and Internships

Learning THROUGH work.

Apply learning through practical experience that develops knowledge and skills necessary for success in careers and postsecondary education.

Sample Student Learning Outcome

Student builds effective collaborative working relationships with colleagues and customers; is able to work with diverse teams, contributing appropriately to the team effort.

An Experience Differentiated by:

- Direct interaction with partners over time
- Application of skills transferable to a variety of careers
- Activities have consequences and value beyond success in the classroom.
- Learning for student and benefit to partner are equally valued

Experiences might include:

- Integrated project with multiple interactions with professionals
- Student-run enterprise with partner involvement
- Virtual enterprise or other extended online interactions with partners
- Projects with partners through industry student organizations
- Service learning and social enterprises with partners
- Compensated internship connected to curriculum

Career Training

Learning FOR work.

Train for employment and/or postsecondary education in a specific range of occupations.

Sample Student Learning Outcome

Student demonstrates knowledge and skills specific to employment in a range of occupations in a career field.

An Experience Differentiated by:

- Interaction with partners over extended period of time
- Benefit to the partner is primary and learning for student is secondary
- Develop mastery of occupation specific skills
- Complete certifications or other requirements of a specific range of occupations

Experiences might include:

- Internship required for credential or entry to occupation
- Apprenticeship
- Clinical experience
- On-the-job training
- Work experience