



CENTRAL RIVERS AEA
WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM



WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

THE PURPOSE

Many **students** enter the work force with no realistic view of the skills necessary to get a job or how to keep that job...

- The AEA Work Experience Program creates opportunities for students to acquire and practice these skills in a real work setting
- High school students explore a variety of jobs and discover potential occupations in the local community
- Students learn about the realistic demands of employment and grow in their ability to meet employer expectations.
- As the future local work force students gain perspective on their role in the community as a whole and develop an awareness of the types of jobs available to them.
- Authentic opportunities to practice personal and social skills that are so vital to every type of job are a major component to the learning through doing in work experience

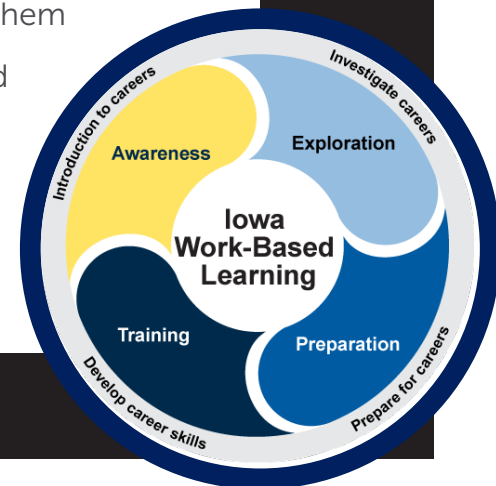


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THE PROCESS

The Central Rivers AEA *Work Experience Coordinator...*

- Matches students with community employers
- The Work Experience Coordinator and employer collaborate to establish a work schedule.
- Students are placed in unpaid positions and perform work duties under the supervision of the on-site manager
- Students may earn graduation credit
- Students may or may not be accompanied by a school job coach
- Students may receive pay if the employer chooses to hire them
- The Work Experience Coordinator meets with students and employers on a regular basis to evaluate progress
- Students are 100% covered by school insurance just as any other off-campus school activity



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THE PRODUCT

Students who participate in *Work Experience*....

- Gain confidence, maturity, independence and self-reliance
- Develop values of strong work ethic and positive attitude
- Become better communicators, leaders and critical thinkers
- Learn how to interact with employers and co-workers effectively
- Observe collaboration, teamwork and problem-solving first-hand
- Find success in non-academic areas
- Increase self-awareness about job skills and preferences
- Practice following directions and accepting feedback
- Identify work skills/abilities and preferences



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EMPLOYER BENEFITS

Employers who participate in *Work Experience*....

- Give students hands-on, vocational related education in areas not accessible in the traditional classroom
- Partner with local school districts, AEA and other employers in supporting youth in the community
- Increase the size of the work force
- Allow Work Experience students to complete special tasks or projects that paid employees do not have time for
- Have a lasting impact on the skills, attitudes and abilities of local students who are the future workers, leaders and employers of the community



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THE PARTNERSHIP

When - Employers partner with

- Students
- Area Education Agencies (AEA)
- Local school districts
- Community Resource Agencies
- Other business leaders...

Then - The support network for the future face of the community workforce is strengthened exponentially – ***EVERYBODY WINS!!***



YOU ARE IN GREAT COMPANY
WHEN YOU WORK WITH
STUDENTS AND HAVE A LASTING
IMPACT IN THEIR LIVES, IN THE
COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE AND
ON YOUR OWN PERSONAL AND
PROFESSIONAL GROWTH.....





For more information:



Central Rivers AEA is cultivating a workplace in which everyone feels welcome, provided with equitable opportunities and empowered to bring their authentic selves to work.