

Benefits of Work-Based Learning

For the Student Learner

- The student has the opportunity to learn useful and transferable employment skills in real-world workplace conditions.
- The student is provided supervised training in the specific area that he or she has chosen as a career objective (applies only to career preparation WBL methods).
- Receiving compensation helps the student build self-esteem and contributes to his and her economic independence (applies only to career preparation WBL methods).
- Interest in classroom work is stimulated by the application of academic and job-related learning to workplace situations.
- The student develops understanding, appreciation, and respect for work co-workers, and supervisors.
- The experience of securing and maintaining a job helps the student develop a mature and realistic concept of self and facilitates mature decision making.
- The student's transition from school to work is made easier.
- Enhances the student's ability to develop a post-high school plan for employment and/or continuing education.

For the School

- The school is able to extend educational opportunities beyond its own physical and financial resources.
- Interaction with professionals outside the school environment is provided for school personnel in the training of young people.
- Parental involvement increases as many become involved as worksite sponsors.
- School personnel receive expanded opportunities to keep up-to-date with changing employment conditions and future workforce demands.
- The concept that education is a community-wide partnership is demonstrated.

For the Worksite Sponsor

- The sponsor receives assistance from a coordinator in analyzing jobs, developing training plans, and consulting on training needs.
- The sponsor has an opportunity to influence school curricula to more closely provide for the employee qualifications needed.
- The sponsor takes an active role in the education and career preparation of students in its local community.
- The sponsor has an opportunity to develop future employees over an extended "trial" period without any obligation for long-term and/or full-time employment.
- The sponsor receives a student-learner who already possesses some of the job-related knowledge and skills needed to be a productive worker.

For the Community

- The number of young people making a successful transition from school to work is increased, thereby adding to the number of workplace-ready individuals who become economically productive members of society.
- A continuing partnership between schools, businesses, and other organizations within the community is developed and nurtured.
- The community's work force and economic stability are improved by enhancing local students' employability skill sets.

