



WORK BASED LEARNING

WHITEWATER CAREER CENTER

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Work-Based Learning (WBL) at Whitewater Career Center comprises of three areas: Internships, Cooperative Education and Work-Based Learning Cooperative Education. All three include practical experiences to help students gain an understanding of an occupation with on-the-job learning, ranging from career awareness to career training.

YOU WILL LEARN

- Employability skills
- What professionals do on the job
- How to network with potential employers
- How the classroom connects to real-world experiences
- More about career opportunities

A TYPICAL SCHEDULE

- Student goes to the workplace and works for an employer 4 days a week.
- Student completes meaningful tasks that develop job skills.
- Release time per day varies from 1 class period to 4 class periods.
- Student attends class 1 day per week to meet with the teacher and complete related work.
- Student must successfully complete classroom & work portions of the experience to remain enrolled.
- Student, parent, WBL Coordinator, and employer sign an agreement specifying the details.

WHEN YOU FINISH

Students are ready to:

- Begin the job search process.
- Enter a postsecondary or training program.
- Advance in their career.
- Continue working for their employer if a job is available.
- Earn an industry-recognized credential and dual credit.
- Be a life-long learner and continue in skill development.
- Be self-sufficient.

BENEFITS TO BUSINESSES

- Enables businesses to grow their future workforce.
- Affords businesses the opportunity to reduce training or orientation costs if they hire WBL students upon graduation.
- Provides a potential talent development pipeline.
- Brings recognition to the business for partnering with WCC.
- Provides the opportunity to develop good community-school relationships.
- Encourages young adults to stay in their community.



WHITEWATER
CAREER CENTER

WORK BASED LEARNING

GRADUATION PATHWAYS

Participation in the work-based learning experiences at WCC can help students meet the employability skills pathway 2 requirement for graduation.

INTERNSHIPS

Internships are work-based activities in which students engage in learning through practical and relevant experiences at the internship site. Internships provide interns with the opportunities to develop an understanding of the career area duties and responsibilities, terminology, climate, protocol, education/training required, and other useful information. Interns usually work an average of 8 hours per week, however, this depends on the number of classes the student has at their high school. Internships are unpaid positions and open to senior students only.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Meet with the high school counselor during the junior year to enroll in an internship.
- Have an internship position, working an average of 8 hours per week, prior to the August school start date.
- Meet with the WBL coordinator during the first week of the senior year to fill out mandatory paperwork.
- Attend WBL classroom instruction at least once a week (depending on the number of release periods) during the school year.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Students in the Cooperative Education program are paid during their experience, and the experience can span all career and technical education program areas. Students should work an average of fifteen hours per week and will have mandatory WBL classroom instruction weekly at WCC. While participating in a Cooperative Education program, students work in their career pathway and work toward becoming occupationally competent while learning employability skills. Cooperative Education is open to senior students only.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Meet with the high school counselor during the junior year to register for Cooperative Education.
- Have a job, working an average of 15 hours per week, prior to the August school start date.
- Meet with the WBL coordinator during the first week of their senior year to fill out mandatory paperwork.
- Attend WBL classroom instruction at least once a week (depending on the number of release periods) during the school year.

WORK-BASED LEARNING (WBL)

Students who have completed at least one year of Career and Tech Education (CTE) at Whitewater Career Center and have the approval of their instructor may enter the workforce in a career-related field. These students are released from WCC class time 4 days each week to complete WBL experiences. The students must return to WCC 1 day each week to meet with their program teacher to work on industry certifications and dual credit requirements and to attend the WBL classroom instruction.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Apply to Whitewater Career Center during their sophomore or junior year.
- Complete at least two semesters of the WCC program and have the recommendation of the WCC instructor.
- Obtain a job in the area of their career program field.

