

Job Shadow Tips for Host Businesses

What is a job shadow?

A job shadow is an opportunity for a student to have a one-on-one experience with a professional in their career of interest. Business volunteers share their work day with a student to provide them a first-hand experience of a typical day on the job and discuss core and soft skills needed to be successful in the field. Job shadows are typically 1-4 hours.

What are the goals of a job shadow?

Each volunteer professional will provide a unique experience. Goals of a job shadow include:

- Educate students about a specific career of interest
- Provide a first-hand experience for the student to learn about a typical day on the job, challenges and accomplishments in the specific career field.
- Show a link between basic classroom skills and soft skills to success in the workplace.
- Provide an opportunity for students to ask questions and gain insight into possible career choices.

What does a good job shadow look like?

A good job shadow is engaging, stimulating and informative. Job shadows should provide students with a deeper understanding of a specific career field. A great job shadow will result in a connection between a potential future employee and a future employer.