

5 FAST FACTS

Establishing School-Business Partnerships to Offer Work-Based Learning Experiences

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Providing authentic work-based learning experiences (WBLEs) in the community requires a committed partnership between schools and businesses.

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Local chambers of commerce and employer networks are helpful avenues for identifying potential business partnerships.

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School-business partnerships are more successful when the roles and responsibilities of both the school and business are clearly defined.

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It is essential that schools and businesses have open communication about their needs and expectations in order to establish a mutually beneficial relationship.

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Business leaders that partner with schools to provide WBLEs report the partnership increases productivity in the workplace, contributes to a positive work environment, expands their employees' understanding of disability, and creates a potential hiring pipeline.

This fact sheet was developed by the Illinois Center for Transition and Work at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign through a contract with the Illinois State Board of Education. Information presented may not reflect the position or policy of the Illinois State Board of Education.

