



SCHOOL-WORK BACKGROUND

School-work ... What is it and why?

- Work experiences better prepare students to make the transition from high school to work, apprenticeship, college and university.
- School-work opportunities include mentorships, job shadowing, cooperative education, the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, work experience and school-work transition programs.
- All school boards must now offer interested students school-work experience opportunities.
- There are over 700,000 students in grades 9 to 12 across the province. The challenge is now to give more Ontario students a work experience.
- To meet the increased demand, schools need more employers willing to provide work experiences.

How do employers involve students in the workplace?

- To assist employers in facilitating school-work partnerships, business-education councils in communities across the province work with organizations and local school boards.
- There is no obligation for employers to pay students. However, some employers choose to compensate students for after-school or summer work, and some offer an honorarium.
- Work experiences vary in length from one day to a semester depending on the type of program that students select and the level of time and training employers are willing to provide.
- Employers help demonstrate the culture and work ethic required of a successful and responsible employee, and provide a safe and healthy environment for the student.
- Students are screened (counselled and interviewed) to ensure that they have the maturity, interest, skills and knowledge needed in a work placement.