# PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS | CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION



# Job shadows provide an opportunity for students to spend two or more hours with one or more employees at a business site. WHAT IS A JOB SHADOW

# Job shadows afford students with an opportunity to learn about a particular occupation or profession by allowing

- them to observe the jobs of individual workers by shadowing their daily routines and activities.
- The Job Shadow typically involves hosting a student and providing them with the opportunity to experience what it is like to perform a certain type of work.
- An experienced worker facilitates the Job Shadow by having the student accompany them as they perform the responsibilities of their job.



### **STUDENT BENEFITS**

- Students have a chance to learn firsthand how employees apply skills and knowledge to accomplish important work tasks and solve problems.
- Students have the opportunity to interact with workers, understand work culture, and connect school studies to the workplace.
- Students learn more about careers in the fields they may be interested in pursuing.
- Learn what employees recieve besides a paycheck

### **STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

- Meet performance and attendance criteria set by the school.
- Complete assignments and participate in career awareness studies/activities.
- Obtain parental/teacher permission to participate
- Arrange transportation to arrive and depart as scheduled.
- Dress appropriately.
- Display polite and courteous behavior.
- Learn as much as possible by observing, asking relevant and thoughtful questions (included in the packet), and taking good notes.

### **EMPLOYER BENEFITS**

- Contribution to building a better prepared workforce of tomorrow
- Improved visability in the community as a caring partner in the education process.
- Increase local talent.
- Get a fresh perspective of the jobs and daily routines of your organization.

### **EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION**

- During the job shadow, employers are encouraged to perform their normal work activities and maintain their daily routine as much as possible.
- Serve as host and identify appropriate individuals to participate.
- Provide a safe work environment. Keep students in groups at all times.
- Include the student in their normal work activities.
- Share how their career path evolved.
- Explain how their department/job relates to the organization
- Discuss education and training needed to perform the job
- Answer student questions.
- Describe how the organization or job fits within the industry/pathway
- Complete the Student Evaluation form (attached) on page 13.



#### Learn more at www.pps.net/partnerconnect



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### TIPS FOR JOB SHADOWS: MAKING IT EFFECTIVE AND EDUCATIONAL

#### **EMPLOYERS**

- Make sure you have the student's name.
- Gather company brochures, product sheets, and any other pertinent data that would be of interest to the student about your job and/or business.
- Notify co-workers of the student's visit and encourage them to share their career experiences.
- Perform requisite safety and security requirements

#### **STUDENTS**

- Confirm parking, meal arrangements and appropriate attire with the Career Coordinator/teacher at school.
- Confirm your job shadow appointment with the host.
- Be reliable and prompt.
- Make a positive first impression.
- Have your phone on silent and take pictures when appropriate.

#### **STUDENT AGREEMENT / PARENT PERMISSION**

By signing below the student and parent/guardian acknowledge the following:

- The hosting businesses/organizations have no liability for this activity. The undersigned agree that each participant is responsible for his/her own safety and agree not to look to the hosting businesses, organizations or other involved parties with regard to liability for any claims related to participation in the career day activities.
- The student will abide by employer non-disclosure policies, such as restrictions on taking photographs or sharing any proprietary information.
- The student agrees to attend and participate fully in the entire program, (students will not be allowed to leave early) and to complete and submit the assignments required in Job Shadow Packet on time, to be eligible for credit.
- Students are to provide their own transportation with permission from parents (Students are encouraged to use MAX or Tri-Met. Plan your trip at http://www.trimet.org )
- It is understood that if students are unable to attend their scheduled Job Shadow, the school and business they were shadowing MUST be notified before the start of the normal work/school day.
- It is understood that this is a learning event and the students agree to conduct themselves appropriately as representatives of their school
- My signature below also gives permission for publication (including social media) of any photos taken of my child during the Job Shadow Day by Portland Public Schools and business partners.
- Portland Public Schools may use a service that allows the schools to contact and communicate with students participating in Job Shadow Day activities through voice, text, and email messaging.
- There will be no discrimination or harassment in the placement of any student on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment
- Please list any medical condition of which we should be aware:\_\_\_\_\_

designee) authority to seek emergency medical treatment for my child.

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I hereby give PPS (or its representative

#### STUDENT AGREEMENT

Submit the signed application to your Career Coordinator or CTE Teacher ASAP

Student Name (Print)	School
Grade: 9 10 11 12	
Email	Cell Phone
Student Signature	Date

#### PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)	Day Phone
	Day mone
Alternate Emergency Contact Name	Day Phone
Attenuite Emergency Contact Nume	Day mone
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
	Bate

### SAMPLE Job Shadow Confirmation/Commitment Communication: Making the Contact:





# Example Script for Phone Communication:

Before contacting the employer, make sure that you have the person's full name. In addition, make sure that you contact them at a convenient time. For example, do not call a restaurant during meal hours.

<ol> <li>Introduce yourself, you</li> </ol>	r school, and your purpose for calling.	
Hello, is	(your host) available please?	
Hi my name is School.	and I am a student at	High
	for agreeing to host me for the Job Shadow day, on m scheduled to visit with you from(time) until	
	e opportunity to discuss with you the many career on <u>name</u> and learning about the requirements, salaries, lecisions for my future.	
2. Say thank you.		
	ailable, leave the above information in a message a	nd ask when would



# Writing your Thank You Letter

It is important to thank your "Workplace Mentor" for the time and effort they have given to help you in career exploration. The following is a model for a thank you letter. On a separate sheet of paper, write your own letter and send it to your "Workplace Mentor" or pass it along to your teacher and/or school Career Coordinator to send it to them, based on the instructions you have been given.

Date (month day, year) Your Mentor's Name Your Mentor's Title Name of Company

Dear Mr., Mrs., or Ms. (Workplace Mentor's Last Name)

**Paragraph 1:** Thank your Workplace Mentor for his or her time and helpfulness Thank you for hosting me for a job shadow on October 16. I enjoyed learning about Adidas, and seeing how you manage multiple projects at once. I know your time is valuable, and appreciate being able to spend part of the day with you.

**Paragraph 2:** Tell him or her why the experience was important to you. Share some of the things you learned through the job shadowing experience I did not realize how much work went into making a product, such as a shoe. I will definitely look at consumer products differently from now on. Until my job shadow, I did not realize Project Management was a career option. Now I understand that with good organization and communication skills, I could have a similar career one day.

**Paragraph 3:** Add anything else you would like to say. Thank you again for your time, and commitment to helping students at \_\_\_\_\_ High School. My experience would not have happened without your participation.

Sincerely, Sign your name Print your Name Below Your Signature



# Questions to ask during a job shadow:

Interview your job shadow host using the questions below. Write your host's responses in the space provided. You may include your own questions based on your research, either confirming information gathered or enhancing information.

1. How would you describe a typical day at your job?

2. What do you like most about your work?

3. If you could change something about your work, what would it be?

4. How did you decide this was the career for you?

5. How would you describe the people who work here in terms of their age, gender, and racial/ethnic backgrounds?

6. How has technology affected this job?

7. How do you think this job will change in the next five years? The next ten years?

8. What skills and training do you need for this job?

9. What recommendations do you have for me if I want to go into this career?



# **Observation Worksheet**

Check the skills observed during your job shadow. Identify at least three skills, and describe how those skills were demonstrated.

Example:

□ Organizing – Construction foreman coordinates delivery of concrete and other supplies

Organizing	
Planning	
Making decisions	
Thinking creatively	
Analyzing problems	
☐ Following directions	
Working independently	
Participating as a team member	
Reading	
Listening	
Speaking	
☐ Math	
🗌 Art	
Technology (computers, machinery, etc)	
Customer Service	
☐ Other:	



# **Job Shadow Day - Reflection Form**

Student Name:	Date
CTE Teacher:	Period:
CTE Class:	
Name of Person Job Shadowed:	Title:
Business Name:	

Use complete sentences to respond to the following items. Attach paper if necessary.

Share three things you learned from this experience: 1.

2.

3.

What classes are you taking (can you take) in high school that will help you to prepare for a job or career in this field?

Decide whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Certain elements of the job shadow experience surprised me." In a paragraph, support your position with two examples from your experience.

In a paragraph explain whether or not you would be interested in pursuing a career in this field. Support your response with at least two examples or reasons.

Student Signature _	Da	ate:

Parent Signature Date :

	Please evaluate the student in the areas	Workplace Supervisor's Job Shadow Evaluation Sheet		
	below using the following rating scale: 1 = unacceptable in this category; must improve 2 = still learning; requires assistance; should improve 3 = meets expectations 4 = exceptional performance	Name of the Supervisor:       T         Job Site:       Time:         Date:       Time:         Student Name:       School:		
AN	ID BEHAVIOR)	PERSONAL MANAGEMENT (WORK ETHIC		
Stı	udent was dressed appropriately.			
De	monstrates punctuality			
Can explain and follow workplace health and safety practices				
Follows security procedures and ethical practices				
Has a positive attitude; demonstrates interest in the work				
COMMUNICATION				
Communicated with the employer to confirm his/her Shadow appointment				
Listens attentively and can follow verbal and written instructions				
Asks appropriate questions as instructed at school				
Sp	eaks clearly, accurately, and in a manr	ner appropriate for the work environment		
ΤE	AMWORK			
Maintains appropriate interactions with the workplace employees				
Understands the value of working with others				
Wa	Was able to work well with individuals from diverse backgrounds; respects diversity			
GE	NERAL QUESTION FOR THE WORK	SITE SUPERVISOR		
I'd be willing to have another student job shadow			Y	N
			-	

In the future, I would like to be considered for:

□ Company Tours □ Mock Interviews □ Career Panels/Career Fairs □ Work Experience/Internships □ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Workplace Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_

Telephone number:\_\_\_\_\_Email address:\_\_\_\_\_



### Proper behavior at the job shadow:

- Be reliable and prompt.
- Be honest.
- Have a positive attitude be friendly, courteous, polite, and cooperative with workers and clients.
- If you do not understand something, ask questions or ask for help .

### Grooming:

Students are expected to be well groomed and to wear appropriate attire for most business/industry programs. Please make sure to ask your Teacher, Career Coordinator, or your parents about the appropriate dress code for your Job Shadow Day if you are not sure or don't know what to wear.