



PORTERVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT INTERNSHIP

"Internships provide the experience that brings education to life"

Linked Learning Pathways

Porterville Unified School District offers 9th-12th grade students a rigorous college preparatory curriculum with a focus upon a wide range of Career Technical Educational themes. As members of the National Academy Foundation (NAF), the Linked Learning Pathways are supported by Advisory Boards comprised of community-based partners focused on ensuring our students are prepared for college or career. In order to meet that end, the Linked Learning Pathways, in partnership with NAF, believe that our students must experience successful internships in a career-based assignment.

A. Here's how a Linked Learning Pathways internship works:

1. Students participate in a series of pre-internship workshops to prepare for a successful experience. Workshops include Dress for Success, Completing Job Applications, Mock Interviewing Skills, Oral Presentations, and Researching Careers.
2. Public and private employers provide workplace opportunities. A Work-Based Learning Coordinator or intermediary will work with employers to develop a plan for hosting a student. Porterville Unified School District is responsible for ensuring the student internship is appropriate and worthwhile by working closely with business partners to set limits and goals prior to the internship.
3. Students apply and interview for an internship.
4. Students earn an internship position for which they are compensated. Compensation can take on various forms, including scholarships, travel expenses, stipend, and/or field trip opportunities.
5. Student internship opportunities can occur during summer months prior to the junior or senior year, and/or a time convenient for the student and business partner.
6. Students report directly to their supervisors in the workplace and benefit from periodic evaluations and guidance in a collaborative effort between the supervisor and the Work-Based Learning Coordinator.
7. Students and employers hold high expectations for each other in creating and maintaining a high standard of leadership, professionalism, and accountability.

B. An internship will provide students an opportunity to:

1. Utilize what they have learned in the classroom by integrating these skills in the workplace.
2. Increase career readiness by solidifying soft workplace skills, such as teamwork, critical thinking, professional courtesy, conflict resolution, time management, problem-solving, and a solid understanding of the importance of written and oral communication.
3. Gain entry-level exposure to a career in engineering or a related field.
4. Earn compensation for completing the internship experience, as defined in A.4. above.
5. Begin building a professional network.
6. Discover more about a specific career path as well as related fields.

A Work-Based Learning Coordinator or Linked Learning Pathway representative will be contacting you to discuss developing an internship plan with your company.