

Employer Guest Speaker Fact Sheet

When guest speakers visit a classroom, students/learners listen to a presentation to learn about the speaker's career, business and industry, and ask questions to help them consider whether they might like to pursue a career path in the industry.

Designed to meet specific learning objectives, guest speaker presentations are linked to the curriculum and help students/learners connect what they're learning in school with the workplace. Presentations are usually conducted at the school, but in some cases, guest speakers may "visit" a classroom electronically via Zoom or some other technology, or the activity is conducted on-line.

Program Level: All Grades.
Employer to Student/Learner Ratio: 1 - 3 employers to 40-100 students.
Duration: Usually 1 hour
Frequency: One time
Location: School/Classroom/Online
Costs: Staff time
Special Considerations: Employee selection. Company volunteer policies and practices.

Why are guest speaker presentations important for students?

- Exposes students/learners to potential careers and jobs and help build occupational knowledge.
- Illustrates the education and training needed for entry into certain industries.
- Provides a context for learning and fosters an understanding of how academic concepts are applied in a real-world setting.
- Lets students/learners know about your company's processes and products/services and the role your business plays in the community.

What are the benefits to my company?

- Exposes potential future workers to job opportunities and careers with your company, as well as the required skills and education to be successful in your industry.
- Introduces students/learners to one or more of your employees.
- Helps your employees understand how to communicate with the next generation of workers.
- Provides an efficient way to introduce and engage multiple employees with your commitment to education and connect your company with the community.

What do I need to do next?

- Determine who will coordinate the guest speaker presentation for your company and have them connect with the work-based learning Connector to address scheduling, planning and logistics.
- Arrange for a presentation to those employees who will participate as guest speakers.
- Distribute the Employer Guest Speaker Tip Sheet to interested employees.
- Consider any impacts on company policy.

Resources

- Review the Employer Participation Options Fact Sheet to learn more about how to get the most out of your partnership with Earn & Learn.