



unite! is an easy-to-use online tool that connects you and your business or organization to the future workforce in your community. Go to www.ilunite.org and click “Join Now” to enter your company profile and select any of the activities listed below!

EMPLOYER INVOLVEMENT GUIDE - MEDIUM TERM ACTIVITIES

Service Learning Opportunities (2-15 hours)	Service learning opportunities give students a chance to give back to their communities while performing meaningful projects at local for-profit and non-profit businesses or government agencies. Many senior projects, required for graduation, involve service learning projects. These opportunities may be one-time or ongoing.
Summer Externship-Teacher (8-24 hours)	Provide professional development opportunities for teachers to observe and work for 1-3 days in the field. This exposure to current trends in the industry is often a part of revitalizing classroom curriculum.
Summer Site Visit-Teacher (2-4 hours)	Teachers visit business sites during the summer to learn the daily routines and activities of a company. Businesses who host site visits conduct a tour of their company and provide opportunities to observe employees as they go about their regular work. Ideally, a time is established for teachers to have a questions and answer session after the tour.
Curriculum Advisor (1-15 hours)	Teachers are looking for ongoing opportunities to consult with industry experts about trends in the industry, including technology and software used, skill alignment, industry credentials, educational pathways into the field, trends in the industry, and more. This valuable networking opportunity is the first step in aligning high schools to post-secondary to career fields.
Project Advisor and Support (1-15 hours)	Project-based learning is a dynamic approach to teaching in which students explore real-world problems and challenges. With this type of active and engaged learning, students are inspired to obtain a deeper knowledge of their subject matter. Projects may vary in length. Businesses may support projects by directly advising students, or by offering donations of materials to complete the projects.

EMPLOYER INVOLVEMENT GUIDE - LONG TERM ACTIVITIES

Internship/ Project Support 24+ hours	Internships provide students with opportunities to experience “hands-on” learning in the area of their career interests, and apply classroom learning in a real-life environment. In addition to exploring a particular career pathway, industry, or occupation, students learn workplace readiness and entry-level job skills, building their portfolio and their professional network. Student’s assignments may include occupation-related tasks and/or special projects. These experiences may be paid or unpaid, and can vary in range of hours per week. Students may receive school credit for them.
Summer or Part-Time Job (24+ hours)	Employers offer opportunities to experience “hands-on” learning in the area of their career interests and apply classroom learning in a real-life environment through a part-time or summer job. The experiences are paid and occur over the summer or after school during the school year.
Committee Member (1-40 hours)	Participate in a variety of workforce development or education preparatory committees alongside educators, other business people and representatives from a variety of organizations. Work might include pathway exploration, serving on an advisory committee for a school, and more.
Committee Member Rockford Schools (1-40 hours)	Monthly, hour-long meetings are held at each Rockford High School, and are led by a community chair and the school’s Academy Coach. Committees may consist of community members, school staff, parents and students. The teams follow an agenda and provide recommendations, make decisions, identify team members to continue progress on projects, and in general build the essence of each academy. Some members may meet separately with staff, or continue communications through emails or phone calls. Business participants may choose which of the Rockford High Schools to serve, and to which academy they would like to offer support.