

Career Mentoring is a Career Exploration activity in which a student is matched one-on-one or in small groups with an adult professional to explore potential careers and related educational issues.

Career mentors serve as a resource for NYS P-TECH students by sharing insights and providing guidance about the workplace, careers and education through formal and informal meetings organized at the school, in the workplace or online.

Grade Level: Begins in the 9th grade and continues to graduation
Employer/Student Ratio: Typically 1 to 1. May vary by school.
Duration: Minimum one-year commitment
Frequency: Initially monthly (varies over time)
Location: Primarily at the school
Costs: Staff time
Special Considerations: Comply with school policies

Why is Career Mentoring important for students?

- Research shows that career mentors help students stay in school, stay focused and pursue their goals.
- A career mentor lets a young person know that someone cares, that they matter and can have a bright future.
- A career mentor can help a young person see the connection between what they learn in the classroom and the real world.
- A career mentor can help a mentee better communicate with and relate to adults.

What are the benefits to my company?

- Exposes potential future workers to job opportunities and careers with your company.
- Exposes students to the skill needs, educational requirements and career opportunities in your industry.
- Promotes an understanding of the role and contributions of your business in the local economy.
- Introduces P-TECH and its students to your employees and co-workers.
- Helps your employees understand how to communicate with the next generation of workers.
- Provides a way to introduce and engage multiple employees with your commitment to P-TECH and connect your company with the community.

What do I need to do next?

- Contact your P-TECH coordinator.
- Arrange for a presentation to your employees.
- Consider any impacts on company policy.

Resources

- Visit www.ptech.org for materials that support successful Career Mentoring initiatives.
- Distribute the *Employer Tip Sheet: Career Mentoring* to interested employees.
- Review *Employer Options: P-TECH and Your Company* to learn more about how to get the most out of your partnership with P-TECH in your community.