

Employer Team-based Challenge Fact Sheet

In a team-based challenge, students are provided a group problem-based learning project related to their career area of interest that involves a problem relating to employers in their area. The challenge is identified by the employer in consultation with the work-based learning specialist and a classroom teacher. The structure of the challenge is based upon effective project-based learning approaches, enhanced by a focus on the targeted career pathway, and involves an authentic problem or issue faced by an employer partner. Students work as a team to identify possible solutions. They then create and deliver a presentation on their solutions to the employer. Designed to meet specific learning outcomes, team-based challenges are educationally rich, are tied to the curriculum, and help students connect what they're learning in school with the workplace.

Why are Team-based Challenges important for students?

- Provide exposure to potential careers and jobs.
- Develop problem solving and research skills.
- Build teamwork and presentation skills.
- Provide a context for learning and foster an understanding of how academic concepts are applied in a real-world setting.
- Inform career planning.

What are the benefits to my company?

- Exposes potential future workers to your company and shows them some of the required skills and education needed for success in your industry.
- The solution uncovers fresh approaches and potential solutions to a problem or issue you are facing.
- Introduces students 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 participate in the team-based challenge and have them connect with the work-based learning specialist to address scheduling, planning and logistics.
- Distribute the Employer Team-based Challenge 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 FCPS.

Program Level: All Grades

Employer/Student Ratio:

1-2 employees to 4-6
students

Duration: 6-8 weeks (periodic
contact)

Frequency: One time

Location:

School/Workplace

Costs: Staff time

Special Considerations:

Employee selection. Company
volunteer policies and
practices