

Discovering the Importance of Career Fairs

This lesson is designed to help students understand the benefits of attending career fairs and how they can be utilized to help guide postsecondary planning.

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

1. Learn about career fairs
2. Determine which career fairs they are interested in attending
3. Register for two onsite and/or virtual career fairs

ACTIVITIES

PART 1

Content Knowledge

Lesson Pre-requisite: Have students complete the *Saving Careers to My Career List* lesson prior to this lesson.

Lead a class discussion on career fairs. Ask students if they know what a career fair is and the advantages of attending one.

Explain that career fairs are events that give students and employers the opportunity to meet one another and ask questions. They are a great opportunity to connect with multiple employers at one time in a single location. Some career fairs are quite large with employers from a variety of industries, and others are smaller and more targeted to a particular field. Career fairs also provide an opportunity for job seekers to meet with employers that might have job openings.

PART 2

Applying Information

Have students log in to MEFA Pathway and navigate to *My Careers* under the *Discover Careers* tab. Students should identify the career category that most often appears.

Have students research upcoming onsite and virtual career fair opportunities that are focused on their career category and register for two that they will participate in.

If you have added a career fair to the work-based Learning Opportunities page, instruct students to visit that page to register for the upcoming fair.

Grade Level: 9

MEFA PATHWAY SECTIONS WITHIN THIS LESSON:

- Career List
- My Journal
- Resume Builder

DOMAIN:

- College & Career Exploration
- Academic Skills

TIME:

- 45 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Internet connection to work with the MEFA Pathway website

FUTURE READY SKILLS:

- Evaluating
- Time Management
- Communication

VOCABULARY:

- Career Fair
- Career Category

Email any questions to:
k12support@mefa.org



LESSON PLAN

PART 3

Evaluating Information

Once students have registered for their career fairs, students should prepare by:

1. Practicing their professional introduction
2. Researching the companies they are interested in talking to
3. Developing a plan for their time at the career fair
4. Choosing their top 5-10 companies to focus their efforts on meeting
5. Updating their *Profile* within MEFA Pathway to create an appropriate resume draft and printing ten copies of their resume to bring to the career fair

PART 4

Critical Thinking/Creative Application

Instruct students to create a PowerPoint presentation entitled “How to Work a Career Fair” with slides outlining what they will do before, during, and after the career fairs. Students should include details about their resume, introduction, researching companies, questions, and follow-up. Instruct students to be creative and descriptive.

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Discovering the Importance of Career Fairs Grading Rubric

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CATEGORY	EXCELLENT 4	GOOD 3	SATISFACTORY 2	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT 1
Content Accuracy	All content on the presentation is accurate. There are no factual errors.	Most of the content is accurate but there is one piece of information that seems inaccurate.	The content is generally accurate, but one piece of information is clearly inaccurate.	The content is confusing or contains more than one factual error.
Sequencing of Information	The information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Most information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Some information is logically sequenced.	There is no clear plan for the organization of information.
Effectiveness	The presentation includes all material needed to give a good understanding of the topic.	The presentation is lacking one or two key elements.	The presentation is missing more than two key elements.	The presentation is lacking several key elements and has inaccuracies.
Use of Graphics	All graphics are attractive (size and colors) and support the topic of the presentation.	A few graphics are not attractive but all support the topic of the presentation.	All graphics are attractive but a few do not support the topic of the presentation.	Several graphics are unattractive AND detract from the content of the presentation.
Font Choice & Formatting	Font formats (size, bold, italic) have been carefully planned to enhance readability and content.	Font formats have been carefully planned to enhance readability.	Font formats have been carefully planned to complement the content. It may be a little hard to read.	Font formatting makes it very difficult to read the material.
Conventions. Student uses proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	The presentation has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	The presentation has 1- 2 misspellings, but no grammatical errors.	The presentation has 1- 2 grammatical errors but no misspellings.	The presentation has more than 2 grammatical and/or spelling errors.