



Career-Related Learning Experiences (CRLE): Common Definitions

Career-Related Learning Experiences (CRLE) are structured student activities in the community, the workplace, or in school that connect academic content and career-related learning to real life applications. These experiences extend, reinforce and support classroom learning.

CRLE Type		Definition
Basic CRLE	Guest Speakers <i>30-60 minutes</i>	<p>Guest speakers may address students in a classroom, auditorium, or at a community event. They allow a large group of students to hear, firsthand, about a particular occupation, business, or industry. Guest speakers may talk about the necessary preparation, required knowledge and skills, and other interesting information from the point of view of an employee or manager in their field. Guest speakers may also describe how they entered their current occupation, the major responsibilities for individuals in this occupation and the industries in which it is found. Guest speaker visits typically last for 30-60 minutes.</p>
	Company Tours <i>1-4 hours</i>	<p>A business site visit or industry tour allows a group of students to view an organization's facility and operation. Students explore career options and the world of work by observing the worksite and asking questions about jobs, skills, and tasks performed by the company. Site visits typically last one to four hours, and the group size varies to meet each organization's unique needs.</p>
	Informational Interviews <i>30-60 minutes</i>	<p>An informational interview allows a student to explore a particular occupation and gather information about the necessary preparation, required knowledge, and other interesting facts. Informational interviews help students broaden their vision of career fields, gain exposure to different adult role models, and understand the connection between school, work, and achieving goals. During the interview, a business person provides the student with a glimpse of what career is like, the necessary training, and workplace requirements. The student is prepared with a set of questions. The interview can take place in person or by phone. The time commitment is typically 30 to 60 minutes.</p>



Career-Related Learning Experiences (CRLE): Common Definitions

CRLE Type		Definition
Advanced CRLE	Job Shadows <i>2-8 hours</i>	Job shadows provide an opportunity for a student to spend a specified amount of time (usually not less than a few hours or more than a day) with one or more employees at a business site. The student learns about potential careers by “shadowing” the daily routines and activities of individual workers. Businesses and employees who host job shadows go about their regular work while discussing it with the student. The student observes the employee and then “interviews” the employee about his/her work and education. Job shadows help students develop communication skills and make the connection between academic classroom work and their career goals. Job shadows are unpaid and last 2-8 hours.
	Mock Interviews <i>30-90 minutes</i>	Mock interviews help students develop and practice job interviewing skills. Employers who regularly interview job applicants (often human resource professionals) set up interview sessions with individual students to help them prepare for their future interviews. Typical interview questions are presented and students are asked to respond as in a real interview. After the interview, students are given construction feedback regarding their interviewing style and how they responded to the questions. Mock interviews typically last 30-90 minutes.
	Internships <i>24+ hours</i>	Employers offer internships to 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. They also can explore a particular career pathway, industry, or occupation and learn workplace readiness/soft skills and entry level job skills essential for success in the workplace. The student's assignments may include occupation-related tasks and/or special projects. Employers have an opportunity to review the goals and objectives created for the internship by the student. These experiences can be paid or unpaid, reflect a wide range of hours per week, and are completed during one week to one year (a minimum of 24 hours).
	Senior Project Advisors <i>Time varies</i>	A project advisor provides support and advice in the technical aspects of a student’s senior project. Senior projects, also called extended applications, are designed as the culminating experience for high school students in Oregon. A senior project is a large, often complex project designed around a student’s career and educational interests and goals. The student designs the project with input from teachers and the project advisor. Students are expected to solve problems, create products, and make presentations. They demonstrate extended application through successful completion and presentation of a collection of evidence. A senior project typically lasts one school year (9 months); for the business partner the time commitment is typically 20 hours.