

## What is the Youth Apprenticeship Program?

Youth Apprenticeship (YA ) is a program that connects High Schools and Business and Industry to educate students in employability and occupational skills defined by Wisconsin Industries. Students are instructed by qualified teachers and skilled worksite mentors. As an example, Casey wants to participate in a YA program of study and chooses the Health Science Career Pathway which is one of eleven to experience. This experience gives her the opportunity to see if she likes it or not before spending post secondary years paying tuition and then deciding that it isn't for her. She signs up for Youth Apprenticeship with a school YA coordinator, interviews and gets a job at an Assisted Living Facility. In school, Casey must enroll in two related courses and get her Certified Nurses Assistant certification. On the job she must work for at least 450 hours at minimum wage or higher. A skills checklist is reviewed by the school YA coordinator and a mentor at the Assisted Living Facility. There are three checkpoints throughout the work experience. Upon completion of the program, Casey has gained amazing skills in Healthcare, earned wages, and a State of Wisconsin Certificate and the school qualifies for funding to benefit the school districts Career and Technical Education program.

## Program Requirements

Junior or Senior year in High School

450 hours of work-based learning minimum for a one year program, 900 hours for a two year program including summer hours.

Two semesters of related classroom instruction (CTE) each year.

## Programs of Study

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Architecture and Construction

Art, A/V Technology & Communications

Finance

Health Science

Hospitality, Lodging and Tourism

Information Technology

Manufacturing

Marketing

Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)

Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

## What is in it for the employer?

- Recruit and screen potential employees;
- A Youth Apprentice can perform more tasks legally than a non learner worker (Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development)
- Reduce employee turnover by hiring program graduates;
- Partner with your local school to prepare students for the world of work to strengthen communities;
- Grow your workforce with skilled workers.



## Employers

To further strengthen the partnership between businesses and schools Inspire Connections was created as a means to showcase your business to all Wisconsin students. Inspire Connections can help you improve your company's local talent pipeline by connecting your company with students (6th through College, their parents, and educators to inform them about your company and industry needs as well as work-based learning opportunities that you may offer. When you enroll your company, students will see it as a part of their Academic and Career Planning courses through Career Cruising software.

## Benefits of Inspire Connections

- Increase your business's visibility and highlight your community involvement
- Promote careers that are available in the region and help students realize that there are many opportunities in your community.
- Nurture your future workforce by connecting with them early in their career development.
- Bridge the skills gap of students coming out of High School by communicating what the real world needs.
- Help build Wisconsin into a workforce strong and economically vibrant state.
- Positively affect and directly address the region's drop out, graduation and unemployment rates.
- Inspire Connections allows you to communicate directly with students through email.

Contact your local Economic Development Corporation, Chamber, or visit the link below to register your company.

<http://www.momentumwest.org/workforce/inspire-connections>.

## CESA 11 Participating Youth Apprenticeship School Districts

Amery	Luck
Baldwin-Woodville	Osceola
Barron	Plum City
Cameron	Prairie Farm
Chetek-Weyerhaeuser	Prescott
Clayton	Rice Lake
Clear Lake	Saint Croix Falls
Cumberland	Shell Lake
Durand-Arkansas	Siren
Elk Mound	Somerset
Ellsworth	Spooner
Frederic	Turtle Lake
Glenwood City	Unity
Grantsburg	

Your CESA 11 Youth Apprenticeship Coordinators are:

Brenda Kretzschmar email: [brendak@cesa11.k12.wi.us](mailto:brendak@cesa11.k12.wi.us)

Randy Schullo email: [randys@cesa11.k12.wi.us](mailto:randys@cesa11.k12.wi.us)