

Work Experience Options

On your course selection form for Grade 11, you will be asked to make a choice between 2 work experience options. The “30 hour” option is part of your Career Life Connections 11/12 and is **compulsory** in order to graduate. The “80 hour” option is an **elective** course which provides students with an opportunity to do extra hours of work experience.

30 Hours

Career Education 10-12 includes the following compulsory coursework:

Career Life Education 10

- 4 credits
- full year class scheduled in your timetable
- resumés, career plans, skills, Work BC, high demand occupations, work place safety, etc.

Career Life Connections 11/12

- 4 credits
- **Includes min 30 hours of work experience**
- Inquiry project and post graduate transitional life lessons, including skills development, post-secondary & career planning and capstone presentation.

*NOTE: everyone must complete a minimum of 30 hours of work experience. *Employer must be registered with WCB and in good standing.*

What type of work experience can I participate in?

- 1) Volunteer
- 2) Paid*
- 3) School arranged

80 Hours

- Career Preparation Program
 - **Work Experience12A – WEX12A**
 - **An Elective** 4 credit course
 - identify a career path/focus area
 - choose 4 courses that support your career choice(s)
 - identify skills you want to develop & training
 - work one on one with your Career Education Teacher to develop a Work Experience plan
 - **complete 80 hours of work experience**
 - complete employability skills assignments
 - Students can have a free block in Grade 12 if they choose WEX12A because there is no specific time when you meet as a whole class (all work is done on an individual basis) **OR** students can elect to take Career Prep as a ninth course.
 - 4 credits like all other grade 12 courses
- 6 Reasons students select WEX12A**
1. Volunteering gives you experience.
 2. Volunteering helps you develop skills.
 3. Volunteering expands your network.
 4. Volunteering lets you check out an occupation or industry.
 5. Volunteering builds your confidence.
 6. Volunteering helps you get to know yourself.

Some Other **Extended Elective** Work Experience Options

You may enrol in these options only after consultation with your Career Education Advisor, Counselor and parents. If you are interested in participating in an **Industry Training Program** (including Youth Train In Trades, Industry Certification or Industry Connect Program) or **Youth Work in Trades Program**. See Ms. Wispinski Room 313

Industry Training Programs

- Programs are offered in:

Youth Train in Trades- ACE-IT

Auto Collision Repair Technician
Auto Refinishing & Prep Technician
Automotive Service Technician
*Baking (Pastry Arts) *limited opportunities
Cabinet Maker & Joiner
Carpenter Level 1
Construction Electrician Level 1
Professional Cook Level 1
Hairstylist (2 years)
Landscape Horticulturist
*Metal Fabricator Level 1 *limited opportunities
*Millwright *limited opportunities
*Motorcycle Mechanic *limited opportunities
*Painter and Decorator *limited opportunities
*Pipefitter *limited opportunities
*Plumber Level 1 *limited opportunities
Sheet Metal Worker1 *limited opportunities

Industry Connect

Film & Broadcast
Graphics/Media Arts
Health Sciences
Digi Pen Game Development Academy
Robotics - Mechatronics
Music Production & Technology

Industry Certification

Cisco Networking Academy
Fitness Leadership Instructor
Microsoft Office Specialist
Palo Alto Cyber Security Academy
Tourism & Event Management

- Each program provides grad credits, \$250 application fee which is refunded upon completion
- Start in Grade 11 or Grade 12-apply, interview
- Moscrop (home school) where students complete academic courses and attend another school to learn the skills in specialty area
- Some costs associated for textbooks, & equipment, **zero tuition costs**

Youth Work in Trades

(Paid Apprenticeship)

- WRK11A 4 credits for each
WRK11B 120 hours of work
WRK12A experience completed.
WRK12B Maximum of 16 credits
- Receive at least minimum wage
- Usually the work is done outside of school time (summer/weekends/ evenings, etc.) but the student could be on a partial academic partial paid apprenticeship program
- Work experience must be done in an **apprenticeable** trade/occupation (see <http://youth.itabc.ca/> for a list of apprenticeable occupations)
- Work experience can start any time after the completion of Grade 10
- Student is responsible for finding a willing employer who is "Red Seal" qualified to offer an apprenticeship placement
- Some students may already be working part time in an apprenticeable trade e.g. cooking in a restaurant
- Students must complete an application package and assignments which relate to the work experience
- Students may be eligible to apply for a \$1000.00 award after graduation.

Career Preparation WEX 12A – The 80 Hour Program ... How Does It Work?

NOTE: WEX 12A - Career Prep is an **elective**...it is very popular but you **don't have** to take it! If you **want** to select it, here is what you do...

1. Identify your career focus or goals. (You may have more than 1 career in mind... that's OK).
For example: doctor, accountant, carpenter, social worker, artist, travel agent, etc.
2. Identify some skills you want to develop during your work experience. For example: *Working with others; demonstrating initiative; working safely; problem solving; demonstrating positive attitude; being responsible and adaptable; giving and receiving feedback; participating in projects; (or include a **different skill** not listed above)*
3. Select the **ONE** focus area that best relates to your career plans.
Pick one of the following:
 - *Business and Applied Business
 - *Fine Arts, Design, and Media
 - *Fitness and Recreation
 - *Health and Human Services
 - *Liberal Arts and Humanities
 - *Science and Applied Sciences
 - *Tourism, Hospitality and Foods
 - *Trades and Technology
4. Choose 4 courses over grade 11 & 12 that will support you to achieve your career direction, courses of interest, or courses required for post-secondary pathways. (These are “natural” choices that you would be likely to choose anyway).
5. Meet individually with your Career Education Advisor to discuss your career plans and work experience opportunities. (Ms. Dato, Ms. Wispinski, Ms. Wong)
6. Complete 80 hours of work experience and related assignments.
Usually: Grade 11 – 40 hours (5-days)
Grade 12 – 40 hours (5-days)

Your work experience must be a school-sanctioned opportunity **related to your career plans and skill development**. You do have the opportunity to do work experience in 2 different focus areas. **You can only count your own paid or volunteer work with prior approval from your Career Education Advisor. Past experiences CANNOT count, only hours moving forward.**

7. You will have a variety of assignments that develop your employability skills & ensure your understanding of workplace safety.
8. At the end of Grade 12, you will get a letter grade for WEX12A (a 4 credit, grade 12 course) based a variety of work placement documents you and the employer complete, and assignments before and after your work placements.

Note: Although this is a **Grade 12 course**, you must register for it at the end of Grade **10** so that you will have 2 ½ years to complete the 80 hours of work experience. (If your career advisor feels that it is appropriate, you **may** be able to start accumulating work experience hours near the end of Grade 10).

Advantages & Disadvantages of Choosing Career Preparation

What's Good About Career Prep?

- The work experiences give you a chance to learn about specific jobs and their related career opportunities, first hand. You are better informed, and therefore, can make wiser career choices.
- The 80 hours of work experience gives you a 4 credit, grade 12 course.
- You may make valuable career contacts that could assist you with planning your career or gaining entry into your chosen field of employment in the future.
- Your supervisors provide you with an evaluation/reference that you can add to your resume.
- Most employers prefer to hire someone with some sort of experience. Your work experience may make you more employable when you apply for a paying job.
- There is a **chance** that the company where you do your work experience may offer you paid part-time or summer work. If you make a favourable impression, and the company is looking for part-time help, they are much more likely to consider **you** first for any openings they may have.
- If you choose WEX12A you have the **option** of having a free block (usually in your Grade 12 year). This may be considered an advantage, as a free block will give you more time to study and as a result, attain higher marks in your other courses. Some students might choose to take Career Preparation as a ninth course.
- If you are submitting any type of application (post-secondary institutions, scholarships, etc.,) the more “well rounded and **experienced**” you are, the better your application looks to a screening committee.
- The majority of students in Burnaby **do** choose a Career Preparation Program so there must be something good happening here!

What's Bad About Career Prep?

- You **do** have to miss some school... (depending upon the employers' willingness to take students outside of school time)... It **could** be as much as 10 days of school over your grade 11 and 12 year. You meet with your CE Advisor and decide when you schedule your placements. You **are** responsible for all work missed during your absence and it may be difficult to complete all of your missed assignments if you have a heavy academic load. Most Teachers **are** understanding and will give you a reasonable amount of time to catch up, **but** you must be aware of this responsibility **before** you choose Career Preparation.