## **Work Experience Options**

On your Course Selection Form for Grade 11, you will need to **choose** between 2 work experience options:

* the “30 hour” option is part of your Career Life Connections 11/12 and is **a graduation requirement**
* the “80 hour” option is an **elective** course which provides students with an opportunity to do extra hours of work experience and explore different career options

# 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 WorkSafe BC and in good standing.***

What type of work experience can I participate in?

1. Volunteer
2. Paid\* (with some restrictions)
3. School arranged

### The 80 Hours Career Preparation Program is...

* **Also called Work Experience12A** – WEX12A (4 credit course)
* **An Elective:**  4 credit Applied Skills course
* To identify a career path/focus area
* Requires students to choose 4 courses that support your career choice(s)
* To identify skills you want to develop
* To work one-on-one with your Career Education Teacher to develop a Work Experience plan
* For students to complete 80 hours of work experience
* To complete employability skills assignments

If students choose the 80 hour option, they may:

1. have a free block in Grade 12 if they choose WEX12A because all work is done on your own time (there is no scheduled class time) **OR**
2. elect to take Career Prep as a ninth course

**6 Reasons students select WEX12A**

1. Volunteering gives you experience.  
2. Volunteering helps you develop skills.

3. Volunteering expands your network.  
4. Volunteering helps you explore an occupation

or industry through hands-on learning.

5. Volunteering builds your confidence.

6. Volunteering helps you get to know yourself.

Some Other **Extended** **Elective** Work Experience Options

You may enroll 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 <https://youth.skilledtradesbc.ca/trade-finder/> 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.
* There are tax grants and tax credits as you progress through the trade to your RED SEAL

**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: actor, radiologist, writer, doctor, accountant, carpenter, social worker, artist, 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

1. 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).
2. Meet individually with your Career Education Advisor to discuss your career plans and work experience opportunities. (Ms. Dato, Ms. Wispinski, Ms. Wong)
3. 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-approved opportunity **related to your career plans and skill development**. You 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.**

1. You will have a variety of assignments that develop your employability skills & ensure your understanding of workplace safety.
2. 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**

**Why Career Prep may be a good choice for you:**

* The work experiences give you hands-on experience and to learn about specific jobs and their related career opportunities, first hand. You are better informed, and therefore, can make better informed career choices.
* The 80 hours of work experience gives you a 4 credit Applied Skills Grade 12 course – this could help you achieve your graduation requirements.
* 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 employment portfolio.
* Most employers prefer to hire someone with some sort of experience. Your work experience may make you more employable when you apply for a paid job.
* Sometimes there are paid part-time/ summer opportunities that come up after a positive work experience placement. If you make a positive impression and the company is looking for part-time help, they are much more likely to consider **you** first for appropriate 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.
* 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.

**Why Career Prep may NOT be a good choice for you:**

* You **may** have to miss some classes (For example, if the organization you are doing work experience with operates Monday through Fridays, you will likely need to miss some school). It **could** be as much as 10 days of school over your grade 11 and 12 years. 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.