



partnerup

Students • Employers • Schools • Communities

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the PartnerUp Program

The PartnerUp program is a career-readiness program led by Nemaquin and a coalition of regional employer. The program prepares your talent for full time careers directly after high school graduation. The program consists of 4 two-hour workshops delivered during the school day with the goal of interviewing and extending job offers to students before high school graduation.

2. Why should I sign up for the PartnerUp Program?

Deciding what to do after high school is a complex decision. If you are unsure of what you want to do after graduation, worried about the cost of college, wanting to work while you figure out your next steps, or already focused on launching your career immediately after graduation, this is the program for you. The skills you will learn during the program will help no matter what you decide to do or where you end up after graduation. PartnerUp is an opportunity to develop yourself personally and professionally as you network with employees at major companies in the area.

3. Do I have to attend all the sessions?

While we understand that life happens, the expectation is that you commit to all 4 sessions. The program should be considered a yearlong interview. As you develop your skills in each session, employers will get to know you and your potential. If you miss more than one session, you will not be guaranteed an interview and will miss valuable one-to-one time with employers.

4. What will we do in the sessions?

Each Session focuses on a specific career development topic and is a mix of presentations, activities (group and individual), and networking time. You will complete an assessment of your strengths, work to develop your resume, start a budget, conduct a social media audit, create your personal brand, practice interview skills with employers to and much more!

5. Is there an application for the program?

Yes, as the program expands it has become more competitive. Remember this is a fast track to guaranteed interviews for full-time careers with benefits and great starting salaries. Your school liaison will collect the application to provide to employers.

6. What if I want to go to college?

Great! The employer partners certainly support further education, almost all offer some form of tuition assistance. Some of the positions offered are only full-time or may have a full-time training period before part-time work is an option so in many cases enrolling in college may need to be delayed.

7. What type of jobs are available?

PartnerUp aims to bring together a wide range of employers in many industries as we know individuals have different interests and skills.

8. What employers are participating?

Currently we have confirmed, Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort, 84 Lumber, West Virginia Medical Services, Ford Business Machines and PNC Bank are participating employers. Other employers and positions may become available ahead of the application period and interview day(s).

9. What are the requirements to join the program?

The portion of the program is for seniors at our partner schools. There are no GPA requirements, but you must be on the path to graduation, motivated and engaged to participate. You must commit to attend all the sessions, be on time and be professional.

10. Are there any requirements to get the jobs?

Nearly all the jobs require that you are at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma before starting your position (many will allow you to apply, I interview and accept the offer ahead of your 18th birthday but you cannot start until you turn 18). Nearly all jobs will also require that you pass a drug screen and background check as a condition of employment. Some employers also do random drug screens during employment. A few positions require a driver's license.

11. Am I guaranteed a job?

You are guaranteed interviews with any and all the employers for which you complete their application processes, but we cannot guarantee jobs.

12. What if I start the program and then my plans? Do I have to continue?

The information learned and skills developed in the program will be valuable to you regardless of where you head after graduation. If you plan change, have a conversation with the teacher/counselor at your school responsible for the program for guidance.

13. What benefits are available with the companies?

Benefits will vary by company but can include: a livable wage (i.e. more than a minimum wage), medical benefits, tuition assistance, retirement, paid time off, career advance opportunities and more!