

Work-Based Learning FAQ for 2021-2022 School Year

What is Work-Based Learning (WBL)?

WBL is a capstone course in the student's focus elective/career goal area. The course builds on classroom-based instruction to develop employability skills in order to prepare the student for success in post-secondary education and future careers. This course is a great way to explore career interests and can provide an edge for entering post-secondary programs, as well as the work force!

Who may take WBL?

Senior level students that have an interest in working in a job that aligns with their focus elective and/or post-secondary career goals are eligible for WBL. The student must show a record of satisfactory grades, attendance, and behavior. The student should also have reliable transportation to their work site. (Please request a WBL Application from your school's Guidance Department for more specific requirements.)

Who teaches WBL?

WBL Teachers/Coordinators are educators who are trained and certified by the TN Department of Education to facilitate this course.

Does WBL have homework?

The WBL course has state standards that each student must complete to gain course credit. The course assignments, which are paced over the school year, challenge the student to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world work experience. The students will meet regularly throughout the year with their WBL Teacher/Coordinator. Assignments are managed by their assigned WBL Teacher/Coordinator. Time outside of school may be required to complete the assignments and some schools may require assignments to be submitted online.

Does the student have to find their own job?

The student is responsible for finding a job placement which aligns with their focus elective/career goals. In order to obtain WBL credit, the student must average five hours (one credit) to 10 hours (two credits) of work at the worksite per week. Their focus elective teacher(s), however, may serve as a valuable resource for helping students in discovering possible placements. Unless otherwise approved by your school's WBL Coordinator, the place of employment must be within a driving distance that allows the WBL Coordinator to make a worksite visit within the class period.

What should a student do if they are interested in taking the WBL course?

The student should discuss this desire with their school guidance counselor and pick up a WBL application. Closely look over the application and ensure enough time to complete all the necessary parts.

When is the deadline to apply for WBL?

The applications are **due to the Central Office no later than Friday, April 16, 2021**. Check with your guidance counselor as to when your school needs the application in order to meet the deadline. My school's deadline is _____.