

Belleville District #201 Apprenticeship Programs



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All about Apprenticeships

What is an apprenticeship?

A youth apprenticeship combines on-the-job training (provided by an employer in a business industry, or related organization considered to be essential to the economy of a local area, region, or state) with job related academic instruction in a curriculum aligned with national skills standards for a specific career pathway.¹

Why is the idea of youth apprenticeships becoming a key priority in education and business?

1. A rapidly changing job market requiring proficiency in a variety of higher order reasoning and technical skills
2. Student loan debt is increasing dramatically
3. A lack of alignment between many college majors and current (and future) workplace requirements

What career pathways are considered high-priority in the US today?

1. Advanced Manufacturing
2. Construction
3. Energy
4. Finance & Business
5. Healthcare
6. Hospitality
7. Information Technology
8. Telecommunications
9. Transportation/Logistics

Will students be paid for their work on an apprenticeship?

Yes. All models of apprenticeships in Belleville District #201 include pay for the student apprentices.

Is an apprenticeship like a normal job?

No. Students are expected to participate in a highly structured environment where they will receive on the job training and mentorship along with supplemental instruction at the high school level. The goal is to give the students credentials and career development experience that will lead them to employment or the next step of training in their career.

¹ AASA. The School Superintendents Association. Expanded Pathways, Youth Apprenticeships Give Students Brighter Futures

Qualifications for Apprentices

District #201 Qualifications:

Senior
On-Track for Graduation
Must be Enrolled at a level III class at the CAVE. (Exceptional Level II candidates will be considered)
Eligible for CTE Cooperative Education class
Will take related CTE Course their senior year
Min of 2.0 GPA, Preferred 2.5 or higher
Has CTE Teacher and Counselor Recommendation
Tardies and Discipline are considered in the application process
Can provide own transportation

Businesses will have additional criteria depending on the site. They may include:

Minimum Age
Drug and Background Screening
Skills Test
Application and Interview
Higher GPA (3.0 or higher)

Ideal candidates will be eager to learn new skills, be dependable, on-time, and able to take initiative.

Process for Apprenticeship

Partnerships with businesses will be cultivated throughout the calendar year. Businesses that desire apprentices will need to have information about the apprenticeship to the District Counselor prior to student registration for next year (Prior to January)

Beginning junior year², students will be identified by their CTE teachers for available apprenticeship opportunities. Names will be sent to the CTE District Counselor for review. (January)

Student records will be reviewed. Parents and students will be notified of the opportunity. The student and parent will be able to make an appointment with the referring teacher and/or the District Counselor to discuss the opportunity. (February)

Students will apply for apprenticeship and Cooperative Education class (March)

Businesses will interview and select candidates for the next school year. Students will be notified if they have or have not been selected for the apprenticeship. (March)

Students may begin work as early as summer before their senior year.

A training agreement will be signed between the employer and apprentice (August & January of senior year)

Current Apprenticeship & Internship Opportunities

- TerraSource Global (Welding, Machining, Drafting)
- MAC Medical (Welding)
- Home Builders and Remodelers (Construction)
- Chelar Tool & Die (Machining)
- Meckfessel Tire & Auto (Automotive)
- Belleville School Transportation (Automotive)
- More are being developed each year

² Students will need to plan ahead to take advantage of these opportunities. Often recruitment happens as early as Sophomore year.

Other Opportunities

As apprenticeship opportunities grow, we will add more to the list above. If students are not ready, do not qualify, or have schedule conflicts with this opportunity, District #201 offers several other options for students to learn about career pathways and gain experience. They are listed below:

1. **Cooperative Job Opportunities:** Students come to work for your company their senior year of high school. A representative for the company signs an agreement with the school to provide on-going feedback on student performance. A Cooperative Education teacher makes contact with the student's immediate supervisor and will visit on occasion. The goal for Cooperative Education is to provide students with work experience and support them with an in class experience to prepare them for the work world. This is a paid position. Students apply for the program. Students are released early from school each day for this experience. Students earn high school credit for their work experience.
2. **Internships:** Some students will want short term experiences to help them discern their career path. They will do semester long (or shorter) experiences with companies and professionals in fields. The goal is student learning and experience in fields before post secondary education. This can be a paid or non-paid position. Internships can be coordinated by students or through the Career and Technical Education counselor. Students can be any age agreeable by the company. Students will not be excused from classes to attend internship. They will not earn high school credit for this experience.
3. **Job Shadow:** Belleville 201 has students who are searching for their career path. These students range in age from 9th grade (14) to 12th grade (18). Students would come to your business and connect with an employee who shares an occupation of interest. This could be a full day of shadowing--watching a day in the life or it could be an informational interview of that employee lasting up to a couple of hours.

Belleville District #201 Apprenticeship Contacts

Name	Role	Phone	Email	Role
Amanda Guinn	CTE Counselor, West & East	618-222-7681 or 618-719-6567	aguinn@bths201.org	Administrative, Onboarding of new companies (paperwork & questions), student support
JR Brentlinger	Apprenticeship Coordinator	618-334-0949	jbrentlinger@bths201.org	Building New Partnerships, Forming Advisory Councils, Helping to Recruit Students for programs, Technical Skills support
Toni McLeod	Cooperative Education Teacher	309-264-0952	tmcleod@bths201.org	Student support, evaluations, training agreements

Businesses who are interested in hosting apprentices during the 23-24 school year, please scan this QR code to complete an interest survey. Once completed, students will be able to apply for a position within your company.



Students interested in applying for the 2023-2024 Apprenticeship positions. Please scan this QR code and complete the application.

