THE PORTLAND WORKFORCE ALLIANCE BUILDS ENDURING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN BUSINESSES AND PORTLAND-AREA HIGH SCHOOLS.

BIG DREAMS. GOOD JOBS. ALL STUDENTS.
PWA works with high schools, employers, colleges and other postsecondary partners to help students develop their college-and-career aspirations. Last year, we helped provide more than 10,400 career-learning experiences.

NW YOUTH CAREERS EXPO
The annual NW Youth Careers Expo features top employers and draws students from Oregon and SW Washington. About 6,500 students from 70+ high schools attend each Expo, and our 195+ exhibitors include colleges, apprenticeship training centers and the region’s leading employers. More than 1,000 students do mock interviews or career workshops.

CAREER DAYS
We help host about 40 career days a year for nearly 1,000 students at leading employers in health care, design, technology, construction and more.

Volunteers show their workplaces, offer hands-on learning, share their insights, and describe the skills and education needed to thrive in their careers.

CLASSROOM AND BEYOND
PWA assists career coordinators with on-campus activities, such as career exploration days, career fairs, and mock interviews. We collaborate with fellow nonprofits serving underrepresented youth. We connect teachers to employers for career speakers and classroom visits. We aim to show the connections between the classroom and real life.

MENTORSHIPS & IN-DEPTH EXPERIENCES
We work with our partners to connect about 170 students a year with mentorships and other in-depth experiences. The ACE Mentor Program focuses on careers in architecture, construction and engineering. PWA also facilitates paid internships, job shadows, summer work experiences and volunteer opportunities.

“Today gave me more confidence that there are opportunities waiting for me.”
- Ayanna Webster, Parkrose High School, after Kaiser Permanente Career Day

PWA educates students about career opportunities to develop a strong workforce, boost Oregon’s graduation rate, and help young people find pathways to good jobs.
“We love influencing the next generation and giving them experiences and exposure to the real world.”

Employer Liz Howe, FINE Career Day

“Students can find out what’s going to make them happy [and] where they’re going to thrive... That’s such an amazing opportunity.”

Aurora Mendez, Jefferson High School

“Very interactive! (We value) engaging students in learning opportunities to help them prepare for college and career.”

Educator Shawnte Hines, North Clackamas School District

“Studogents SURVEYED AT PWA CAREER DAYS SAID:

10,400+ career-learning experiences
170+ mentorship experiences
2,200+ mock interviews & career workshops
75+ high schools served
1,500+ employer volunteers
34+ career days at leading employers

81% gained insights that will help them in any career
99% rated their career day Excellent or Good
77% would consider working at that company someday

*2018-19
In 2019-20, we will continue three strategies to help more students graduate, find rewarding careers and contribute to the region’s economic vitality.

1. EXPAND opportunities for all students, with extra outreach to higher-poverty schools and underrepresented youth.

2. CREATE real-world career experiences that help students see the value of their classes.

3. CONNECT students with leading sectors in our region, such as health care, design, construction, tech and manufacturing.

“We want our students to explore and have career pathways. Public schools can’t do that alone.”

- Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero, Portland Public Schools

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OUR FINANCES

The NW Youth Careers Expo is a leading source of PWA revenue and volunteers. Grants from foundations leverage more support. Contracts with individual school districts allow PWA to serve more students.

Expenses $428,828

- Staffing 67%
- Expo & Breakfast revenue 25%
- Rent & Utilities 2%
- Contingency 1%

Revenue $430,200

- School contracts 52%
- Expo & Breakfast (direct event costs) 26%
- In-kind, individual giving, misc. 10%
- Grants 9%
- Contract with ACE Mentor Program 3%

* adopted budget for 2019-20

Looking Ahead

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Get Involved

Volunteer
to speak in a classroom or do mock interviews & writing workshops.

Host
a Career Day, internship, or job shadow.

Join
the Expo as an exhibitor or sponsor.

Donate
to support career learning.