

## 2022 NW Youth Careers Expo: Educator FAQs

*The 18th annual [NW Youth Careers Expo](#) will take place on March 15-16, 2022, as a virtual event, allowing high school students to find inspiration and information about career opportunities. Students will engage with employers and post-secondary partners for community-based career exploration, using a dynamic conferencing tool that allows students to connect within two Exhibit Halls and an Auditorium.*

### EVENT DAY DETAILS

**Opening day:** The virtual Expo doors will open at 8:30 am on Tuesday, March 15. Registered attendees will be able to log in at that time.

**Event hours:** The live Expo will take place from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on March 15-16, 2022. Expo doors will stay open for 30 days after the event.

**How to log in:** Registered attendees can log in to the [landing page](https://pwaexpo.vfairs.com) (<https://pwaexpo.vfairs.com>) using the email address you sent us for registration (username). No password is necessary.

**Event Day help:** For login help or platform issues, email the tech hotline at [pwaexpo@getvfairs.io](mailto:pwaexpo@getvfairs.io). The tech hotline is on the [landing page](#). For other needs: [expo@portlandworkforcealliance.org](mailto:expo@portlandworkforcealliance.org). We will have limited availability to assist during the Expo but will help however we can.

### REGISTRATION

**Some of my students won't be able to attend during the live event. Will they miss out altogether?**

Nope! Though students must attend during the live event for the live features, they can also log on any time up to two months post event for access to booth resources in the Exhibit Halls and on-demand career talks in the Auditorium.

**How do students and teachers log in?**

They log in to the landing page using the email address you sent us for registration. No password is necessary.

**Does PWA email the student/teacher attendees in my group, or just me as group leader?**

Just you. The person who registered a group is the primary and sole point of contact, just like the in-person Expo. Why? 1) Most schools want to share specific information with students, such as assignments or guidelines. 2) Many school servers block external emails sent to students.

**What do you do with student emails?**

They are used as an easy logon for students. We rely on YOU as their point of contact, just like the in-person Expo. We do not give student emails to employers. We only email students in certain circumstances (i.e. they win a prize in the scavenger hunt).

## Expo Structure and Features

### Do my students have to attend at a certain time?

No. Registered students in your group can attend any time on March 15-16, 2022. They can also access the platform, including on-demand career talks and booth materials, for 30 days after the live event.

### What students can do during ALL hours of the live Careers Expo?

They can explore exhibitor booths; access on-demand auditorium career talks, do the scavenger hunt and leaderboard, do class assignments, and find resources to put in their digital backpacks and send to themselves.

### What are additional features during SOME live hours?

Many employers or postsecondary partners will host live talks at certain times. Exhibitors will have several designated hours to be more active in their booths.

## GETTING STUDENTS READY

### I'm a career coordinator. How can I prepare students at my school?

Our [Educator Resources](#) page includes a wealth of information, including:

- **Expo Resource Guide:** This includes a full event schedule, including about 100 live small-group sessions with leading employers and colleges (aka "live booth talks") that your students can attend during class. (Pro tip: Bring headphones!)
- **Scavenger Hunt Flyer:** Students can use the clues to explore careers and employers, and win prizes! (A version with clues will be posted for you by the end of today 3/10/22)
- **A 5-minute video tutorial:** This video will also be posted inside the virtual Expo platform at the Info Booth. Please have students and teachers watch it prior to attending.
- **A sample student reminder email:** [Copy and customize this email as needed.](#)
- **A sample class assignment** that works for "live" or asynchronous attendance.

### How are the live days (March 15-16) different from the 30 days of open access after the Expo?

The live days feature people! These are the days when your students can connect in small-group settings in booths via Zoom with caring professionals from amazing employers and colleges. (Pro tip: Headphones will be handy.) They can ask questions via the booth chats and through Q&A in the Auditorium. They can also participate in live features such as the Scavenger Hunt and Leaderboard, which encourage career exploration.

From March 15 until mid-April, students can explore exhibitor booths; access on-demand auditorium career talks, do the scavenger hunt and leaderboard, find resources to put in their digital backpacks and send to themselves.

## **WHAT TO EXPECT WITH THE VFAIRS PLATFORM**

### **What is the scavenger hunt and what can students win?**

Students can use 10 clues to find 10 icons hidden throughout the platform. Students who find all 10 icons are eligible for our prize drawing. They can also earn points on the leaderboard. Prizes include \$50 gift cards to stores such as Nike and Target, fancy adidas duffel bags and other cool swag!

### **I've heard there are two Exhibit Halls and an Auditorium. What's happening in the Auditorium?**

Students can access more than a dozen Career Talks on subjects including How to Land a Job, How to Ace Your Interview, and Networking Essentials. Four talks will be presented in Spanish. Several will focus on particular industries, such as construction, health care or technology. The full Auditorium Schedule will be released 1-2 weeks prior to the Expo.

### **How complicated is this virtual platform? Do students need special training?**

No, just basic preparation. Students can log in using the email they registered with. Two key resources will be waiting for them in the platform: an "Expo Resource Guide" with a schedule of all live events, and a short video tutorial that will walk them through platform features.

### **Can students communicate in this platform?**

Students can communicate in several ways: 1) In the moderated chats in the booths and Auditorium, and 2) in Zoom sessions hosted by exhibitors.

### **Is the Careers Expo a job fair?**

No! It is a chance for students to explore the amazing range of careers in the region (and the education and skills needed to thrive in those careers). Some employers do have job opportunities or other work-based learning opportunities, either now or soon: Look for the lightbulb icon in the Expo Resource Guide next to their names.