Be a Workforce Development Champion

Are you a tireless advocate for the skilled trades? In order to solve the labor shortage, we need more champions like you. NAHB wants to recognize everyone who is involved with these efforts.

What is Industry Involvement? What are you willing to do?

At the Schools:

- Guest speaking: Industry experts can facilitate learning by guest lecturing, this enables students to make connections between their coursework and real-life careers.
- Serving in an advisory capacity: Industry partners at the local and state levels can play an active role in identifying, developing and regularly reviewing curriculum. This may include serving on a formal advisory board or committee.
- Donate equipment: Industry members may be in prime position to donate equipment and supplies that meet industry standards, ensuring that students in secondary and post-secondary institutions have access to appropriate instruments for their respective career fields.

At your Company:

- Providing job shadowing opportunities or student field trips: You can host students for a day at your place of business, either individually or in small groups, so that students can see real-world examples of careers in action, as well as be exposed to the workplace.
- Offering intensive work-based learning opportunities: You can engage students by offering internships, pre-apprenticeships or apprenticeships, bring students to the workplace to connect with industry experts and develop career competencies through hands-on experiences.
- Hosting teacher externships: Employers can help instructors and faculty keep pace with the rapidly changing workplace by hosting them over breaks and during the summer.

In your Community:

- Participating in a career day events: Career days allow schools, districts, and institutions to have industry employers share information about the industry and connect with interested students with the community at large.
- Competition judging: NAHB, Skills USA and other organizations host events at the local, state and national levels where students compete with their peers. Industry professionals can volunteer to judge these competitions, providing much-needed industry expertise.

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Workforce Development Champion Checklist

Place a ✓ next to each item you currently do.

- ❑ Serve on a program advisory board (secondary)
- ❑ Serve on an industry advisory board (post-secondary)
- ❑ Host paid interns
- ❑ Host apprenticeship program(s)
- ❑ Visit high school shop classes
- ❑ Visit middle school classrooms
- ❑ Participate in career day fairs
- ❑ Host job fairs
- ❑ Donate supplies to shop classrooms
- ❑ Donate supplies to Job Corp Centers
- ❑ Host students at one of your job sites
- ❑ Volunteer time as a mentor for your local YouthBuild Program
- ❑ Host students for National Job Shadow Day February 2
- ❑ Sponsor a NAHB student chapter(s)
- ❑ Use HBI PACT curriculum at the schools in your jurisdiction
- ❑ Serve on your local or state association workforce development committee
- ❑ Participate in a local Build My Future event, be a sponsor and/or provide an interactive station
- ❑ Exhibit at guidance counselor meetings/expos
- ❑ Donate money to the Skilled Labor Fund
- ❑ Identify and recruit other industry leaders/champions

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