



Employer Roundtable Discussion Prompts



During your employer roundtable event, employers should be grouped by industry and asked similar questions so that they can share their feedback on the skills, training and certifications they are seeking in new hires.

To have a productive conversation, consider asking the employers the following:

Training/Hiring Questions

- What technical skills matter most to you right now for new employees?
- What soft skills matter most to you?
- Are the certifications our students are graduating with the ones that you prefer new hires to have?
- What suggestions do you have for the types of equipment our students should be using in their training? What is the latest technology we should be aware of in your industry?
- Are there any new trends that are changing which skills and certifications new hires will need? How do you think we should adjust our program in response to these trends?
- What do you think about our curriculum? Is there anything you'd change or spend more time on?

Apprenticeship/Employer Volunteer Questions

- Do you currently hire apprentices? If yes, how many do you normally hire per year?
- How is your apprenticeship program structured in terms of the schedule, work areas and skill sets covered?
- What does the post-apprenticeship period look like for your apprentices? Are they ready to be hired after they complete their apprenticeship, or is there more training they typically undergo before being ready to hire?
- Would you be interested in partnering together on any training, either on our campus or at your worksite through our Work-Based Learning program?
- Do you think your company would be interested in donating or sponsoring the purchase of any training equipment for our students?

Relationship-Building Questions

- How often do you think we should have discussions like these where we evaluate how we can best work together?
 - Is there a time of day that is best for you for check-ins?
 - Would you like to schedule a tour of our training area(s)?
 - What next steps would you like to prioritize first as we continue to explore ways we can partner together?
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