

## VISION STATEMENT

"To provide positive and meaningful real-world career experiences and leadership development opportunities for all teenagers and young adults in their chosen field of interest."



# Exploring's 5 Areas of Emphasis

- 1 Career Opportunities** REAL-WORLD CAREER SKILLS
- 2 Leadership Experience** LEADERSHIP SKILLS EMPLOYERS CRAVE
- 3 Life Skills** CONFLICT-RESOLUTION, PROBLEM-SOLVING, RELATIONSHIP SKILLS
- 4 Citizenship** LEARN DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS
- 5 Character Education** ETHICAL DECISION MAKING



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# What is Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are at least 14 (and have completed 8th grade) and not yet 21 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status and citizenship are not criteria for participation.

Exploring is all about helping young adults make a more informed decision about future careers and determine if a particular career is the right one for them. Typically, a young adult will either:

- 1) get involved, learn about a career, and decide to pursue it;
- OR 2) learn enough about the career to determine it's not the right fit for them. It's better to learn as a young adult that a career is not for you, than after spending lots of money on an education only to THEN discover you don't like the career!

Exploring leaders volunteer their time to provide real-world career experiences for young adults. Exploring is not about lectures and slide shows – it's about gaining practical experience in a career field. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

## BUSINESS

Business Exploring is a hands-on program that exposes participants to many of the major functional areas within a business.

### Popular Exploring careers include:

- Accounting/CPA
- Banking
- Customer Service
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Marketing
- Operations
- Production
- Sales

Explorers get to experience firsthand what it's like to develop a business budget, create and implement a marketing plan, write a business plan, apply for a small business loan, lead people, manage processes, and much more.

### Explorers will:

- Develop work experiences to begin building their résumé
- Make important business contacts with hiring managers
- Understand the importance of teamwork in a professional setting
- Participate in hands-on projects to give them a real feel for whether this career is the right one for them
- Network with professionals who work in these careers daily – who use the latest technology, are aware of emerging trends and know what it takes to get into college for their specific career
- Learn about the educational requirements for a career in Business and receive tangible advice on steps they can take now to prepare and position for a successful career in the field of Business



Learn More. Experience More. Participate in Exploring.  
View the career webpage for more information.



## Everyone Wins With Exploring!

Exploring will be one of the best opportunities you offer your company, your employees, and the youth of your community.

### COMPANY BENEFITS

- Cultivate future employees
- Impact on the education process of youth
- Prepare young adults for transition from school to work
- Develop future responsible and caring adults
- Improve staff teamwork working on common goals outside of normal work
- Visible commitment to the welfare of the community

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- Increased realization that we are ALL responsible for molding today's youth and tomorrow's leaders
- Greater job awareness
- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Enhanced communication, planning, and program development skills
- Increased initiative of employees

### YOUTH BENEFITS

- Practical, real-world career experiences and insight
- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Building of leadership, self-confidence, and problem-solving skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Community service to others

## Testimonials

**"The post was for students interested in accounting. I appreciated the one in a lifetime opportunity to give students a realistic understanding of what real work was like in the Business profession."**

— Bob S., Explorer Parent

**"I would participate again because I found the program very helpful and I enjoyed meeting new people with the same goals and interest as myself."**

— Stephanie R., Explorer

**"The Exploring program is extraordinary... it's similar to getting a try-out in the world of work."**

— George Francis, III, Retired SVP of Administration for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM)

BUSINESS

