

## Virtual Workplace Experiences (VWEs)

**Virtual Workplace Experiences (VWEs)** are credit-bearing courses that include virtual mentor interactions via **Nepris** along with career development activities and workplace simulations. VWEs help students master key workplace behaviors and communication skills while gaining exposure to industries not represented in their region.

VWEs are appropriate for students: a) who lack transportation to workplace internships; b) students in high schools without access to internships with area employers; and c) students for whom workplace internships might not be situationally- or age-appropriate.

New VWE course codes will be included as Universal Courses in every Jump Start graduation pathway.

Curriculum Components	Component Description	Mentor Interactions
1) Career Interest Inventory	Students complete one or more Career Compass or online career interest inventory exercise(s) and react to the findings provided.	
2) Star Jobs Research Day	Students complete a guided research activity to document industry / job research in the career field(s) of their choice.	Virtual
3) My Job, My Way	Students complete a guided research activity to understand how their decisions impact their cost of living and financial well-being.	
4) Self-Assessment	Each student completes this Micro-Enterprise Credential exercise to assess his/her individual behaviors and workplace readiness in five different areas.	
5) Resume Development	Students work individually and in teams, using Career Readiness and online resources, to develop resumes that are evaluated by a mentor.	Virtual and/ or in-person
6) Practice Job Interview	Students practice job interviews; peers and virtual mentors evaluate each student's performance and help students improve their interview skills while building trust and encouraging teamwork.	Virtual
7) Self-Assessment Presentation	Each student presents his/her self-assessment to an unfamiliar virtual mentor. (The mentor provides feedback and encouragement.)	Virtual and/or in-person
8) Informative Interview	The student prepares questions for his/her virtual mentor about career choices and workplace experiences, and then uses these questions to interview his/her mentor.	Virtual
9) Act Right / Dress Right	Students earn points during a multi-day in-school simulation from visiting "guest judges" when they dress and act as if they are in a workplace. This simulation will include instant feedback mechanisms for teachers.	In-person
10) The Game of Life	Students complete the <i>Game of Life</i> simulation, a multi-phase virtual workplace experience that helps students understand how key lifestyle, health, and financial decisions can have a dramatic impact (positive or negative) on their future life and career success.	Virtual (multiple-exercise workplace and life simulations)
11) Person Financial Literacy Online Training	Students complete the <i>EverFi</i> online module for financial literacy.	
12) In-Field Experiences a. Job Fair b. Day on the Job c. Volunteer / Service	a. Students attend local job fairs in their parish or in nearby parishes. b. Students participate in a day observing a local mentor in his/her work. c. Students complete volunteer / service work that enables them to practice key workplace soft skills.	In-person