



Southeast Side Experience Incubator St. Francis de Sales High School Work Study Program

The St. Francis de Sales High School Work Study Program will launch this fall. Here are some highlights of work study programs:

- In this model, students are put into a team working five days per month during the school year at a local business from approximately 8:30am- 4:30pm. The students' academic schedules are modified so that four students work at one organization in an entry-level job without missing academic class time – the students attend the same number of instructional hours as in a traditional school setting.
- Work study provides students a tremendous access to opportunity – not only the opportunity to attend a private/Catholic high school that prepares them to attend and succeed at great universities, but also the opportunity to gain valuable life and work experiences in a professional setting. Students take ownership of a quality, college prep education while developing real world job skills. These experiences have been shown to help student achievement, and universities have shown great interest in this experience as a differentiator in admissions decisions.
- Students learn job skills from day one of their high school career. They learn life skills as they interact with adults in working situations. And they continue to be students in a rigorous college prep program. Other benefits include:
 - Student scholars receive professional, real-world experience to enhance a student's college and career readiness,
 - Student scholars are provided job skills training and ongoing support,
 - Graduates are more likely to go on to successful college careers and
 - Students are motivated to excel in school and pursue professional careers.

Similar work study programs began in 1996 on the Southwest Side of Chicago and now serve more than 38 other schools around the country including Cook and Lake counties. Payment from employers for the effort of the job-sharing team offsets a portion of the cost to educate the students. Over the years there have been work-study students working in and around Chicago and other communities each weekday.

We want to give that kind of experience St. Francis de Sales Students and Families