Career Academies

Marin County Office of Education & College of Marin

Mike Grant & Jesse Madsen – Marin County Office of Education Beth Pratt & Katheryn Horton – College of Marin

Career Academies provide intensive work-based learning experiences and career exploration for high school students in specific industry sectors.



The Marin County Office of Education and College of Marin offer career academies for high school students in Marin. The academies provide an intensive work-based learning experience and overview of careers within a designated industry. Most academies are 40 hours and take place during the summer for five days, from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. College of Marin staff or industry partners act as the lead instructors. Academies include field trips to worksites and guest speaker panels with industry experts. Academies

include:



- o Business Academy at the Microsoft Store
- o Career Exploration Academy
- o CyberPatriots Academy
- o Digital Gaming Academy
- o Education Careers Academy
- o Entrepreneur Academy
- o Introduction to Health Occupations Academy
- o SunPower Solar Academy

Academy funding has been provided by the Northern California Career Pathway Alliance (NCCPA), the Marin County Office of Education, and the College of Marin. Advertised at all high schools and through parent and school email channels, these academies are popular with students and often have a waiting list. They provide intensive work-based learning opportunities and allow students to explore a wide range of careers.

These career academies are an exemplary model of a public-private partnership and innovative educational offerings based on local and current workforce needs. Goals of the academies include:

- Providing meaningful work-based learning experiences for high school students
- Allowing students to accelerate their career exploration by completing 40 hours of work-based learning in only five days
- Providing an opportunity for high school students to earn college credit
- Building partnerships with industry partners to foster future work-based learning opportunities

Results

- Summer 2017: 134 students attended career academies
- 2017-2018 school year: 43 students attended career academies
- Summer 2018: Over 250 students will attend career academies

