



Work Based Learning (WBL) opportunities are planned structured learning experiences. They assist participants in acquiring specific skills, develop soft skills, build work history, obtain references, boost resumes and allow for participants to test employment options. WBL can be subsidized or unsubsidized employment or a hybrid of both, paid or unpaid internships, on-the-job training, work experience, job shadow and apprenticeships.

WBL benefits both participants and businesses. The benefits of Work Based Learning to the business include: a trained workforce, an opportunity to give back to the community; input into workforce development system; and a “try before you buy” opportunity. RISE participants are able to participate in a maximum of 240 hours<sup>1</sup> of subsidized WBL activities.

**Allowable participant industry sectors include**

1. Accommodation and Food Services;
2. Agriculture;
3. Construction;
4. Healthcare and Social Services;
5. Information Technology;
6. Manufacturing; and
7. Utilities.



**Parameters Required for WBL referral**

Barriers to employment should be resolved, reduced, or self-managed at the time of WBL referral. Participants must meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of the following activities:
  - a. Barrier reduction sufficient for success in activities
  - b. Strategies for Success Training
  - c. Individual Employment Plan
2. Ability to participate in 40 hours per week;
3. Ready and able to accept full-time employment upon completion of program
4. Supportive services are in place, i.e. childcare, transportation, etc.
5. Worksite agreements and requirements have been met
6. Criminal conviction history is known
7. Documents needed to complete an I-9 form (establish identify and employment authorization)

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<sup>1</sup> \*An Exception to the Rule can be submitted to DSHS, for review, for those clients that have a need for more than the 240 hours maximum for WBL.