

**Ben Barber IA offers  
practicum level courses in:**

- ✓ Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- ✓ Architectural Design
- ✓ Automotive Technology
- ✓ Business, Finance
- ✓ Construction Management
- ✓ Culinary Arts
- ✓ Education & Training
- ✓ Engineering Design & Development
- ✓ Health Science
- ✓ Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Marketing Dynamics
- ✓ Radio Broadcasting
- ✓ Research in Information Technology Solutions
- ✓ Sports Broadcasting
- ✓ TV Studio Production
- ✓ Video Production
- ✓ Welding

## **BBIA Work Based Learning**

A partnership with Ben Barber Career and Technology Academy and local community

For additional information  
please visit

**[bbcta.mansfieldisd.org](http://bbcta.mansfieldisd.org)**

Interested in becoming a training  
sponsor?

Please call

**682-314-1660**

Or email

[catherinehudgins@misdmail.org](mailto:catherinehudgins@misdmail.org)



# **Ben Barber Innovation Academy Work Based Learning**

Putting classroom knowledge and  
skills to work in the local  
community

Ben Barber IA offers **Work Based Learning Programs** through practicum/internships and career preparation programs. It is a learning process that helps students understand the connection between school and work.

### **What is a Practicum/Internship Program?**

A practicum is a capstone experience for students that provides supervised practical application of knowledge and skills after completion of a coherent sequence of career tech courses.

- Learning experiences and activities are based on and in a work setting or simulated work setting.
- Career awareness and exploration are encouraged.
- Unpaid training provides students the opportunity to explore a variety of careers and develop knowledge and skills related to their field of interest.
- Hands on skill development is usually provided in the classroom under the direct supervision of the classroom teacher.
- Examples of practicum/internships include mock interviews, job shadowing, tours, project participation and full internships.
- A minimum of 20 hours per semester is required, but highly encourage more hours.

### **How does a Career Preparation Program differ from a practicum/internship?**

- A career prep program includes all the elements of a practicum/internship except that students are assigned a site or multiple sites for an average of 10-15 hours a week. Work sites are directly related to classroom instruction.
- Skills development occurs in both the classroom and the work site.

### **What are the benefits of work-based learning for the student?**

- Students have the opportunity to learn useful employment skills on real jobs under actual working conditions or in a lab based setting.
- Students develop an understanding, appreciation and respect for work and workers.
- Interest in classroom work is stimulated by the application of academic and job related learning to job situations.
- The transition from school to employment is made easier.
- The ability for a student to develop a post high school plan for employment and continuing education is enhanced.

### **What are the benefits for the training sponsor?**

- Companies have the opportunity to take an active part in the education and career preparation of students in the local community.
- Students are trained by their local employers and prepared to work in their own community.
- Companies have the opportunity to observe and work with potential future employees. Many of our interns have become employees.

### **What are the benefits for the community?**

- The number of young adults making a successful transition from school to work is increased.
- A continuing pattern of school/community partnership is developed.
- Work based learning helps improve the community's pattern of job stability by giving local students job skills.

### **Is there paperwork involved?**

- Yes - Each student that is placed on a job site must have a Training Plan Agreement signed by the student, parent, teacher and training sponsor. A copy will be provided for each participant.