E-Connect Mentoring Program
http://ici.umn.edu/e-connect
e-connect@umn.edu

E-Connect Mentees FAQs

What is E-Connect?
E-Connect is an e-mail mentoring program. Students who participate in E-Connect are assigned a mentor from a local business. Once a week, they e-mail their mentor and ask questions about finding a job, etc. Mentors reply, giving information and advice from their own experience. There are also a few visits as part of E-Connect: the mentors visit the school, and students visit the mentor workplace. At the conclusion of the mentoring program, the students host a celebration at the school for the mentors.

For a thorough explanation, you can review the Overview section of the E-Connect website at http://ici.umn.edu/e-connect.

How long does the mentoring relationship last?
Typically, the mentoring relationship lasts 10-15 weeks or one school semester. When the program ends, the mentoring relationship ends, too.

Who are the mentors?
Mentors come from businesses in the local community. All mentors receive mentor training and an application for the program. Teachers are responsible for matching mentors and mentees. Matches are often based on interest.

Who do mentees talk to if they have questions about the program?
The classroom teacher is available to answer student questions about the e-mentoring program.

For more information, including the curricula, tools, samples, and more, please visit the E-Connect website at http://ici.umn.edu/e-connect.

E-Connect was funded by Minnesota’s Pathways to Employment (PTE) initiative, a collaboration of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Minnesota Department of Human Services, and the Minnesota State Council on Disability. PTE’s mission is to increase competitive employment of people with disabilities and meet Minnesota’s workforce needs by bringing together people with disabilities, employers, businesses, government, and providers. Funding comes from a Competitive Employment Systems—Medicaid Infrastructure Grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The funds for this grant were authorized through the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-170).

The E-Connect website (ici.umn.edu/e-connect) and materials were developed by the Institute on Community Integration in the College of Education & Human Development at the University of Minnesota.

© 2011 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer