

Idea Exchange Proposal

COMPLETED APPLICATION EXAMPLE

Please fill out all required questions below to submit a proposal by June 30, 2016. To learn more about Idea Exchanges at the 9th Annual Vision Coalition Conference on Education, please check out www.visioncoalitionde.org/latest-news.

The proposal questions follow the basic outline of a one-hour long Idea Exchange:

Introduction
Field Experience or Case Study
Discussion Questions
Connecting Work Underway and Making Progress

Basic Information

1. **First Name:** Gary

2. **First Name:** Stockbridge

3. **Job Title:** President

4. **Organization:** Delmarva Power

5. **Primary affiliation:** Business

6. **Other involvement in education:** I am a member of the Delaware Business Roundtable Education Committee, the Leadership Team member of the Vision Coalition, Board Chair of the United Way of Delaware, and chair of the Delaware Workforce Development Board.

7. **Email address:** x@delmarva.com

8. **Phone number:** 888-888-888

Introduction

9. **Idea Exchange Topic – What question about *Student Success 2025* would you like the group to explore?**

(E.g. How can we support all children to read by third grade?

How can we increase college access for all students?

How can we support students' social and emotional needs?

How can we expand teachers' influence beyond four walls?

How can we measure effectiveness of education investments?

How can we be advocates for our children?)

How we can we provide more career awareness and exploration opportunities for students?

10. Please summarize this Idea Exchange topic in a few sentences.

Career awareness and exploration activities improve students' knowledge of career options and provide exposure to workforce opportunities while a student is still in middle or high school. These activities may begin with site visits and guest speakers and can expand to include the use of online platforms, job shadowing, mock interviews, and internships. These experiences can help students plan their courses of study and define the knowledge and skills needed to enter a career in that field.

11. Which of the [core areas of Student Success 2025](#) does your Idea Exchange topic best relate to? Postsecondary Success

12. How does this Idea Exchange topic support the recommendations put forward in *Student Success 2025*?

Providing stronger career awareness and exploration opportunities will help achieve the *Student Success 2025* recommendation of helping students receive early exposure to workforce experience, starting as early as middle school. It also supports the goal that all students will graduate ready to transition to college or career.

Your Field Experience or Case Study

13. What is one example or case study that you will share from your own experience to kick off the conversation? You may want to highlight work underway in Delaware.

There are many paths a student could take to find a career at Delmarva Power. Our careers range from engineers, to linemen, to customer service and public relations. Through participation in career awareness and exploration activities, Delmarva employees have been able to talk with students about their interests and answer a broad range of questions. Student want to know what skills and education/training are needed to pursue certain careers. They want to learn what a typical day in the office looks like. In this Idea Exchange, I will share Delmarva's experience engaging with students on career awareness and exploration activities, including the benefits, challenges, and lessons learned.

Discussion Questions

14. What are 1-3 questions you would ask when facilitating a discussion on your topic?

- 1) How can we better encourage collaboration between education and employer partners to help make this a reality?

- 2) What are the barriers might be preventing students from participating in career awareness and exploration activities? How can we collectively overcome these challenges?
- 3) What stakeholder groups might be interested in this work and how do we engage them?

Connecting Work Underway and Making Progress

15. What are 1-2 opportunities for individual participants or for Delaware as a state to make progress on this topic?

- 1) Individuals can mentor through several organizations with mentoring programs or volunteer to be a career coach through SPARC so that more students have the chance to learn from professionals in the field.
- 2) Delaware could make progress if more employers volunteered to provide career awareness and exploration opportunities for students through the SPARC platform.

16. Is there other information you would like to include?

*Thank you for your interest in participating! Applicants will be notified of their acceptance in **August, 2016**. In the meantime, please be sure to save **November 14, 2016** on your calendar for the 9th Annual Vision Coalition Conference on Education.*

Please contact Neil Kirschling at nkirschling@rodelfoundationde.org if you have any questions. As one of the organizations represented on the Vision Coalition Leadership Team, The Rodel Foundation loans staff support to the Vision Coalition to put on its conference.