

Orange Connection Professional Host FAQs

What is Orange Connection?

Orange Connection is a career mentoring experience designed to allow students to connect and job shadow with Wartburg alumni in metropolitan areas. Students participate in a one-day job shadowing opportunity with an alumni or friend of the college that allows them to gain an insider's view into a career field of their interest, observe on-the-job activities, and participate in hands-on learning experiences in the workplace.

Orange Connection also includes an opportunity for students to stay in the homes of alumni mentors, learn about balancing work, family, and community commitments after college, and discover what alumni learned from their Wartburg college experience.

Why should I volunteer to be a host? You can:

- Connect and make a difference in the lives of talented students who are eager to learn.
- Share your career and professional expertise and help Wartburg students understand the working world.
- Get reacquainted with current Wartburg news and interact with students.
- Meet students who could potentially become great candidates for future employment.

How many students would I host?

Participants usually host one student. If you are willing and able to host more than one student, you are welcome to do so.

How much preparation does hosting an Orange Connection student require?

The amount of time you spend as a host will vary. It may take some initial set up with your place of employment. In addition, time is needed to determine what aspects of your position you want to share with the student and if any other colleagues or departments should be involved so the student can get an in-depth view of your career field.

What should I do with the student during the job shadow?

The student should be involved in the day-to-day activities of your office/department (i.e. meetings, conference calls, projects, etc.) to provide them with insight into your career field. The student does not have to be with you the entire time. You may set up meetings with other colleagues or departments to give the student a more well-rounded view of the company or organization. You also can give the student a project to work on for the duration of the job shadow. If any pre-paperwork is needed from the student to be able to job shadow, we can arrange for that to be completed (i.e. confidentiality statement, background check, etc.).

Where does the student stay during Orange Connection?

Wartburg alumni and friends of the college host the students in their homes. The student is responsible for getting to and from your place of work.

Does it cost me anything to participate as a host?

No, professional hosts are not expected to provide meals or transportation.

How will I be matched with the student(s), and when will I be notified?

An internal committee of Alumni and Career Services staff reviews the applications and matches students based on their application materials. Professional hosts are notified of their student participant(s) a few weeks before the event.

Will I need to drive the student?

We do not expect hosts to drive students to their professional job shadow sites unless you are willing and able to do so. Typically, students use their own vehicle, utilize public transportation, or a college staff member will assist with transportation needs.

How can I provide feedback?

You will be asked to complete an evaluation after the program.

What if I need to cancel?

If some unforeseen event occurs that requires you to cancel, notify your student and college contact.

College Contacts:

Amy Tucker	319-240-1386
Derek Solheim	319-240-3380
Ellen Engh	515-851-8596
Alex Buchheim	608-213-3423

amy.tucker@wartburg.edu
derek.solheim@wartburg.edu
ellen.ENGH@wartburg.edu
alex.buchheim@wartburg.edu