

EMPLOYER GUIDE

School Counts! In the Oil Region

Young people need to know that there is a correlation between working hard in school and finding a job- whether that job is in a Fortune 500 company or in the stockroom of a local retail store. They need to know that attendance, punctuality, attitude and effort count, and that nothing succeeds like hard work. The school districts in the Oil Region will soon be offering students the opportunity to earn a School Counts! In the Oil Region certificates which will demonstrate these qualities. Employers can reinforce these messages by asking young adult job applicants for the School Counts! In the Oil Region certificates. School Counts! In the Oil Region will help students understand that school performance is important and will help develop a more highly qualified workforce.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Sign up to be a School Counts! In the Oil Region employer using the attached form.
- Use the School Counts! In the Oil Region Certificate as one of the criteria used to evaluate high school job applicants by simply asking to see a student's certificate.
- Encourage other companies to participate in and support School Counts! In the Oil Region.
- Allow your company to be identified in our participating businesses list.
- Volunteer to visit schools to talk about your needs as an employer.

THE PROCESS

School Counts! In the Oil Region is a school-based initiative that encourages employers to use high school performance as one of the criteria used to evaluate high school job applicants. Participating employers will ask for the School Counts! in the Oil Region credential during an interview. Students can earn a School Counts! in the Oil Region certificate annually in grades 9 through 12 and a Master Certificate if they participate in the program for all four years. The School Counts! In the Oil Region credential certifies that an individual has: obtained a grade of 'C' or better in every course, achieved a 95% attendance and punctuality record, completed high school in eight consecutive semesters (to be eligible for the Master Certificate), taken more than the minimum graduation requirements, demonstrated positive behavior including no school suspensions and have passed a random drug tests.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- Display School Counts! decal and posters in window or other noticeable areas
- Speak to classes about how important School Counts! In the Oil Region is to their future
- Market to employees and parents
- Donate incentives for students to sign up
- Provide awards for students who receive a certificate

Business/Organization Commitment Card

YES! I want my business/organization to participate in the **School Counts! In the Oil Region** program.

Business/Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Contact Person/Title: _____

Email: _____

Optional information:

Yes No

 Do you hire high school students?

 Do you have internships available?

 Do you allow students to shadow an employee for a school project?

Please return to: Deb Lutz
Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism
217 Elm Street
Oil City, PA. 16301
Email: dlutz@oilregion.org
Fax: 814-673-5654