

the faces of job shadow



“Each of us has a clear stake in the preparation of our nation’s children to enter the workforce. We must be active participants in education reform. The strength of our future economy depends on it. ”

— Randall Stephenson,
AT&T Chairman and CEO

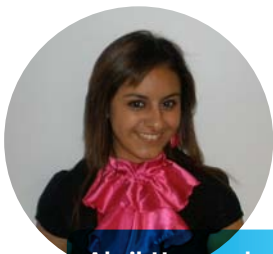
AT&T/JA Worldwide Job Shadow Initiative

Through the AT&T/JA Worldwide Job Shadow Initiative, a \$5.5 million commitment, AT&T will provide job shadow opportunities for 100,000 students, in grades 9 -12 – as well as second semester eighth graders - across the United States over five years.

By visiting a corporate site, students learn about careers and develop an understanding of the educational background and *skills they will need to succeed* on the job. Job Shadow helps students connect classroom learning to real world opportunities.

As part of AT&T Aspire, the AT&T/JA Worldwide Job Shadow Initiative is Junior Achievement’s *largest corporate job shadow initiative* to date. For more information visit: www.att.com/jobshadow

Meet the Faces of Job Shadow:



Abril Hernandez

While she wasn’t expecting it, 17-year-old Abril Hernandez says it was as if something just “clicked.” She realized it was time to start pushing herself to make better grades if she wanted her dreams to come true.

The Job Shadow experience opened Abril’s eyes. “Before Job Shadow, my grades were just “B’s,” and I thought that was good enough. After spending time with AT&T employees, and learning how they were achieving their dreams, I realized that I better start pushing myself if I wanted to get anywhere in life. I did it! Now I am on the “A” honor role, and give 100 percent of the credit to them for helping me wake up.”



Eljin Sargent

While he knew going to school was important, 16 year-old Eljin Sargent never really understood how getting an education today, would directly impact his life and future success. But his thinking would quickly change, once Eljin got the opportunity to experience the world of work firsthand.

It was during his Job Shadow experience that he realized, "The more education you have, the better chance you have of succeeding." Eljin says based on his job shadow experience, he tells other students, "You may not see it now, but there really is a connection between school and the workplace and you need to take it seriously."



Mason Nofsinger

For 18 year-old Mason Nofsinger, school was the last place he wanted to be early in the morning. In fact, his motivation and interest had dropped significantly in his senior year. Mason was looking forward to getting out of high school, but had no future plan in place. He was "nervous to put himself out there and strive for better things."

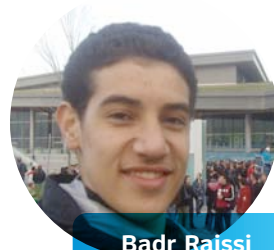
But during the Job Shadow experience, Mason says he realized, "Education is key to doing anything you want." He credits his job shadow experience with helping him make a decision about his future. "I didn't know what I was going to do, but after that day I became open to working towards a college degree and not letting anyone tell me what I can or cannot do."



Jessica Hensley

Eighteen year-old Jessica Hensley is a teen mom and her life has already been full of many obstacles. As she attended her high school's teenage parent program, she was just going through the motions when asked to join a Job Shadow event. Jessica says, "I had no idea that it would change my life."

Once at AT&T, Jessica was teamed up with an AT&T manager who was also a mother and attending school to become a lawyer. The manager shared her own personal story of having a disabled son and talked to Jessica mother-to-mother. Jessica said, "She was my mentor and had an "I will" attitude. I began to share that same positive attitude that no matter obstacles could and would come my way, I would succeed."



Badr Raissi

With tears in his eyes, 16-year-old Badr Raissi stared out the bus window and promised himself, "I will make it!" But getting to this point of optimism and determination was not easy.

When Badr first moved to the U.S. he could not speak English and he found this time very isolating and painful. But he did have something that would change his life— the opportunity of an education, reinforced by strangers who deeply cared about his future success. He participated in Job Shadow and credits this as a turning point in his life. "I am lucky enough to have a family, teachers and mentors who are helping me reach my potential."