

Take our Children to Work Day: FAQs



How do we participate?

Release time is based on supervisor's discretion. Some employees take time off, others are provided release time. Each supervisor has discretion based on the needs of the organization.

How do we get from event to event?

Fifteen minutes is built in between each activity to allow you to get to the next activity. Most people bike, while strategically scheduling their visits. Some drive to the off-campus animal sites and then do on-campus biking. If you need help finding locations, use our [Event Map](#).

Do we have to register?

Yes. You will register for the entire day in advance at our website. If you want to attend one of events requiring an RSVP due to space limitations, the lottery will close at noon on Friday, April 21, 2023. The lottery will be processed and you will be notified of the results on Monday, April 24th.

What type of activities can we expect?

The goal is for youth to envision their future, so many sites have hands-on activities and tours for youth to learn about different career fields. The descriptions will tell you about the activities and will be posted on our [WorkLife TOC website](#) as they are confirmed. There is everything from sports, to science, to creative opportunities to explore.

What about lunch?

Lunch is on your own, but the Dining Commons \$2.00 child lunch coupon (up through age 12) is a great way to have your child experience lunch at college! We will send the link on Wednesday, April 26th to all those who have registered for the day...simply click, print and present it to the cashier at the Dining Commons. After April 26th, the coupon will be available on the TOC website.

What age children can participate?

While the national program is geared towards children age 6-12, our campus is open to all ages. For those younger than 6, please make sure that time on campus (particularly in the workplace) is very limited and have another adult available to manage and bring the child home after a brief visit. Most ages enjoy visiting the museums, participating in crafts, and lunch at the Dining Commons. Some older than 12 enjoy the career-aspect of the day and are welcome to participate. We trust the parent or caregiver to determine whether an activity would be good for the child as well as respectful to the work environment. Please do not bring a child younger than the indicated age on any event. You will be turned away if your child is not of listed age.

Does it have to be my child?

We encourage people to bring any important child in their life to the day.

How do we see everything?

You don't. Based on years of experience, we highly recommend pacing yourself, choosing the appropriate amount of input and stimulus for the age of your child, and not running from event to event. Also consider choosing an activity you may not have done in previous years or are unfamiliar with--that's how we grow, gain new visions and discover hidden interests. Consider not applying for a lottery event that you have already done in the past so we can spread the joy around more equitably. This year, you can only enter one lottery event.

What if we are a "no-show" to an RSVP event?

As our RSVP events are in such high demand, we need to respect the time and efforts of the units that host these activities and fill as many spots as possible. Therefore, if you "no-show" an RSVP event, you will not be eligible to participate in the lottery for the following TOC program. We ask that you please cancel your participation by 5pm the Wednesday before TOCs, if possible.

How do we get the time to do this?

Release time is appropriate with supervisor approval. What does this mean? It means that it is your supervisor's discretion as to how you can participate in the day based upon the needs of the organization. Each supervisor/director sets parameters based upon what is appropriate for their work environment. Some units utilize the day as a unit-wide celebration of family and approve release time or juggle schedules for their staff, others limit participation to a window of time, while some may ask you to use PTO or vacation time. We allow and encourage another adult in your family to attend who can supplement taking the child to activities away from your work time for a portion of the day or who can transport a child after a part-day of fun (honestly this is all most kids can absorb anyway).

Any safety rules?

Adults or caregivers must supervise children at all times. Parents/guardians are responsible for care, custody and control of minors at all times. If you want to attend a lottery event, ALL members of your attending group must meet any age guidelines. Use common sense regarding safety and appropriate behavior (please no children under six in the office for more than a brief visit!).

Any other things I should know?

Have fun. Plan ahead with your child. Get out of your comfort zone and explore wider possibilities and remote corners of campus. Don't rush from thing to thing. Focus on a day of education and exploration. Lastly, please remember it is an all-volunteer event and respect the fantastic students, staff, departments and amazing people who have taken the time out of their busy day to host you and your guests...and don't forget to express appreciation to them!