

Student Employment Appreciation Week

Let's Celebrate!

Check out these budget-friendly ways to show appreciation for your student employees:

- Bring in your **favorite homemade treat** from your childhood to share.
- Do a **team-building activity**.
- Let your student employees pick **music for the workplace** to listen to for the day.
- Have **themed dress-up days** at work (i.e. superhero with own unique powers, 80's day, dress as your boss day).
- Have a department **potluck**.
- Gather "**office kudos**" by passing along notecards with the student employees' names on them and have each colleague write something they appreciate about the individuals.
- Create **posters or a bulletin board** featuring your student employees. Display outside your department or office's entrance.
- Send out a **survey to your student employees asking for their feedback** on how to improve workplace culture or customer service. Try implementing a few of the students' ideas.
- Paint rocks in bright, cheery colors and give them out as "**You Rock**" **awards** when a student goes above and beyond at work.
- Have a "**walking**" **department meeting** to both take care of business and explore campus.
- Decorate your department with **streamers and balloons**.
- **Hide small trinkets** (i.e. bouncy balls, pictures of Sir Victor, etc.) around your department and challenge your student employees to find all of them.
- **Send a note to the families of your student employees**. Let them know what the student does, how their work impacts your department, and how terrific the student is.
- Invite your student employees to **dine in the Mensa** with you.
- Provide a **basket of sweet treats or snacks** throughout the week for your student employees.
- Have a **trivia contest**.
- **Take a picture** with your whole work team.
- Write **handwritten thank you notes** to your student employees.
- Give a **shoutout on your department's social media accounts** to your student employees.
- Ask your student employees for **ideas for process improvements** and try implementing a few.

- Create a **gratitude jar** at work and invite your student employees and colleagues to add something they are grateful for.
- **Teach a student employee a new task** or help to further develop a skill set.
- Give your student employees **high fives** at the beginning and/or end of each shift.
- **Invite a student to attend a meeting or training session** with you that they would not typically attend.
- **Attend an event hosted by the Student Employment Office** during the week with your student employees.
- **Invite your student employees to make a tik tok or Instagram campaign** to recruit new student employees.
- Set aside 10 minutes to meet with each student employee **one-on-one** and get to know them better.
- Create **unique awards** and present them to your student employees (i.e. “the motivator” award, “go the extra mile” award, “exceptional customer service” award, etc.)
- Ask students to **share their expertise** with other student employees by developing and offering a training session during a department meeting or by mentoring new student employees.
- Take cuttings from a plant in the office and give them to each student as a live “connection” to the department. (a.k.a. **friendship plant**)
- Invite your student employees to participate in a session to **set goals for next academic year** for your department.
- Host a “**coloring workshop**” and invite your students to color a “superhero” for the Student Employment Appreciation Week banner.
- Contact your respective Senior Leadership Team (SLT) member and ask them to send your department’s student employees **a brief email or video** thanking them for the work they do.
- Invite your student employees to go on a **scavenger hunt** around campus while also learning about the various people/resources they need to know about for their on-campus jobs.
- Decorate their workspace with “**thank you**” **sticky-notes**. How many phrases can you think of to say, “thank you”? Or how many languages can you say “thank you” in?