

## CATERING/FOOD SERVICE TABLE PREPARATION

**Purpose:** Students are given the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, skills and talents learned in the area of a career/technology education class. Through the completion of individual projects, students will demonstrate technological literacy. These activity-based assignments better prepare students to become productive members of the industrial and technological community or to enter a post-secondary institution after graduation.

### **Description:**

This is an individual event. The contestant will correctly set up (look up correct wording to define this contest) This is not a contest where a product or project is prepared ahead of time and transported (Except the CTI Competitive Event Portfolio). Contestants perform on-site while judges observe. This provides a demonstration of authentic learning.

### **Examples:**

Project ideas include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

Christmas  
Birthday  
Seasonal

### **Rules and Procedures:**

1. Each contestant will be interviewed and career objectives of the contestant will be stressed along with employability/soft skills in the oral interview.
2. A CTI competitive event portfolio must be provided which meet all guidelines laid out in the Catering-Food table prep rubric.
3. Contestants will bring the dinnerware, linens, decorations, and utensils.
4. Each will introduce himself/herself and tell the "theme" of this catered event.
5. Contestant will have 5 minutes to complete the table setting. *A 6 foot table and 2 chairs will be provided.*
6. The student is responsible for project set-up for competition and removal of his/her project at the conclusion of the contest.
7. The project must be the original work of the student.
  - a. **Appendix E student project authenticity verification form-- MUST be included as the last page in the CTI competitive event portfolio or the student will be disqualified.**

### **Judges will score contestants for:**

1. Safety and sanitation in handling of dinnerware and utensils
2. Appropriateness of decorations
3. Completion within time limit.
4. Appropriate dress for the task.
5. Ability to properly set tableware.

*Revised 2018-19*

## **Suggested Judge Questions:**

### **1. Tell me about yourself.**

*This question is often used to break the ice and see how personable you can be. Be careful not to drone on endlessly for this question. It's easy to get caught up in your back story and lose track of time. A safe answer is to give a brief overview that covers where you grew up, where you went to school, why you chose your major, any internship experience you have, and why you're applying for this job.*

### **2. What are your strengths? Your weaknesses?**

*To answer this question, you need to do some introspection. Ask your friends, family, and any previous coworkers what they how they view your strengths and weaknesses. Prepare to discuss at least 3 strengths and 3 weaknesses. Stay away from clichés like “perfectionist” and “workaholic” as they can be interpreted as weaknesses. Own up to your faults. Everyone has them. Just be honest and open to improving yourself.*

### **3. Give me an example or a situation in which...**

*These questions are not only used to determine what you learned from a particular experience, but also to assess how you would respond to potential workplace scenarios and situations. Prepare to talk about 3 scenarios in which you faced conflict or difficulty in either work or school, had difficulty with either a supervisor or peer, and a leadership opportunity or a project you are particularly proud of.*

### **4. Tell me why you chose this specific project?**

*The good news here is that nobody knows and understands your experiences better than you, so you should be confident for this question. This is a great opportunity for you to sell yourself. A good framework for your answers is to explain the goals for any class or internship, cover your personal responsibilities in any projects, and discuss the outcomes. Again, avoid droning on for too long about any particular experience and wrap things up concisely.*

### **5. What are your longer-term career goals (or where do you see yourself in 5 or 10 years)?**

*There is no “right answer” to this question and it's certainly ok to say that you don't have any. However, be prepared to explain why you don't have any. One solid strategy is to downplay your career goals and aspirations (you are young after all) and play up your interest in the company and industry of the job you're applying for. Showcase your passion to be a part of whatever it is they are doing.*