

VEI Career Readiness Framework



The proposed CRF incorporates the key competency dimensions that students develop through seven differentiated features of the VE experience.

Assuming the Role

Students interview for departments, such as Finance and Marketing, and roles, such as CEO, VP, and Associate. Throughout the year, they execute against role-specific goals and are evaluated against these expectations.

Virtual Economy

VE students buy and sell products and services, prepare their taxes, select insurance and retirement options, and experience financial market dynamics.

Teacher as Consultant

VE is student-directed. There are no traditional lessons, and the teacher acts as an active observer and consultant.



Global Perspective

VE participants interface with students from around the world virtually throughout the program and in-person at the Trade Show, developing cross-cultural awareness.



Day-to-Day Business Dynamics

Students work individually, in departments, and as a firm to develop a strategy and plan and roll up their sleeves to implement it. Each firm develops a distinct culture and faces unique challenges.



Industry Partnerships

VE industry partners provide skills-based mentoring, serve as judges for business plan competitions, and offer internships to students.



Competitions & Events

The National Business Plan Competition and International Trade Show provide opportunities for students to present their work and network with other VE firms.

Competency Dimensions

Leadership

Knowledge and capabilities required to establish direction, motivate self and others, assume accountability, and respond effectively to change.

Professional

Non-technical, transferable knowledge, skills, and abilities required to succeed in a professional environment

Functional

Core business skills needed to perform within a specific industry or business function

Core Technology Skills

Core technical skills needed to perform within a specific industry or business function

VE Enablers

The competency model identifies four dimensions of knowledge, skills, and abilities that VE students develop throughout the program; each is comprised of several core competencies associated with that dimension.

| Description | Competency Dimensions | Competencies |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Knowledge and capabilities required to establish direction, motivate self and others, assume accountability, and respond effectively to change</i> | Leadership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrates intrapreneurship ▪ Coaches others and manages conflict ▪ Motivates others to act ▪ Adapts in an ambiguous environment ▪ Demonstrates well-rounded perspective and unique style |
| <i>Non-technical, transferable knowledge, skills, and abilities required to succeed in a professional environment</i> | Professional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicates effectively ▪ Collaborates with others ▪ Demonstrates effective project management ▪ Demonstrates self-development and learning orientation ▪ Develops relationships and networks effectively ▪ Demonstrates professionalism ▪ Solves problems creatively ▪ Embraces diversity |
| <i>Core business skills needed to perform within a specific industry or business function</i> | Functional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understands general business dynamics ▪ Understands and applies financial concepts ▪ Conducts research and analysis ▪ Demonstrates strong quantitative ability ▪ Demonstrates industry/function-specific skills |
| <i>Core technical skills needed to perform within a specific industry or business function</i> | Core Technology Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MS Excel ▪ MS Word ▪ MS Outlook ▪ Department / function-specific technology (e.g., InDesign, QuickBooks, etc.) |