

EdConnect is your opportunity to meet executives at a variety of ed sector organizations in NYC and DC during spring break in March. EdConnect is designed to introduce you to roles in the ed sector that are beyond teaching and building leadership. You can choose to focus on one city or participate in both events. CSO organizes a schedule of participating organizations and you register to attend meetings of interest to you. Meetings run between 1 and 1 ½ hours, taking place at each organization. The Size of meetings can range from a small number of fellow students to over 25. CSO provides you logistical details for each meeting—from address to meeting contact person to any protocols you need to follow to enter buildings.

EdConnect presents HGSE students with an opportunity to deepen knowledge of organizations structures, cultures, and employment practices. Meeting face to face with executives expands your professional networks, something that you can leverage as you pursue employment. Meeting at workplaces gives you one more element to use to assess a potential workplace culture alignment with your preferences.

Considering that organizations add EdConnect to their workday, CSO has some reasonable expectations of students participating in the program.

- **Do your homework.** Review websites of participating organizations BEFORE you make your reservation for a meeting. Once the rsvp period closes you will not be able to change meetings.
- **Register and attend meetings of authentic interest to you.** Do not sign up for a meeting assuming that it's acceptable to back out last minute or not show up to a meeting that you have decided is no longer of interest.
- **Pace yourself-especially if you are traveling to an unfamiliar city.** Do not sign up for every single meeting time just because there is a time slot open and you think you must fill every hour with a meeting. You don't. Focus on places of interest based upon your research and your honest self-assessment of your facility with traveling to multiple meetings in a single day in an unfamiliar territory.
- **Plan travel to individual meetings in advance.** Meetings start on time with an expectation that you will be on time. While there is about an hour between meetings, in some settings you will need to be very certain of your travel because the full time may be required to go from one place to another.
- **Understand CSO's Cancellation Policy.** We understand that "things happen" -from illness to family emergencies. If you are unable to attend a meeting, you will need to cancel with the organization prior to the session. You will have the contact person for this purpose. If you miss the session due to an emergency, you are expected to send an apology to the organizations contact. If the above procedure is not followed, you will be required to meet with the Career Services Director to be able to access future events.