IGNITE Panelist Visual Aid Guide

Incorporating visual aids will provide an engaging way for students to better get to know you and your job!

- **Visual aids should become an organic part of your story; view the *The IGNITE Panelist Guide* for tips!**
- **For virtual events:** Should **not** be something you share via screen sharing, but rather an item you can hold up to the camera (ie. the item itself or a printout). Digital backgrounds can sometimes make sharing physical items difficult, so please rehearse ahead of time.
- **For in-person events:** Should be visible across a large room, or something you are comfortable passing around.

Examples (please **choose only 1-2** to share):

- **Photo/keepsake from childhood**
  - This is a great way to show IGNITE students that you were once their age and just like them! Share a photo, a keepsake from school or a childhood hobby, or something that represents a challenge you faced and overcame (like a sports or academic award or a scholarship).
  - Print out your photo and hold it up to the camera during a virtual event–this grabs students' attention!
- **Dress as you would for work!**
  - Do you wear a cool uniform or accessory to do your job? Or, maybe you use a cool tool to aid you in your work? (If you dress casually, that's worth emphasizing too!)
  - Highlight any unique accessories, from hard hats to bunny slippers.
- **A tool used in your job or in a STEM hobby**
  - This can be something like a big piece of industrial or electronic equipment (or even a vehicle!). Or, it could be something smaller, like calipers, a circuit tester, or even a favorite pen!
- **Your workspace**
  - Sharing your workspace can create a personal connection to day-to-day work. For virtual events: move your camera around to give a quick "tour." For in-person events: photos or workspace props work great!
  - At home: is a pet usually in the room with you, anything fun at your desk? At the office: does your office have a mascot? Have your coworkers wave! At a worksite: are there vehicles or machinery to show off?
- **A product or project you worked on**
  - Show off something tangible you created as part of your job. Did you work on the design or production of a device, object, or clothing item?
  - Note for virtual events: sharing a website or app is great, just be sure it's something you can hold up to the screen (as a printout or on a tablet or mobile device). If sharing on a device, please be mindful of glare. Practice ahead of time to make sure what you're sharing will be visible to the audience.
- **Awards, recognitions, or mementos from your career**
  - Have you been honored for your work? Hold a patent? Did you shake hands with someone famous?
  - Have you been given products or awards recognizing your work?
  - Have you taken a business trip and gotten a cool souvenir?

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