

Get a head start on your career!



Pre-Employment Transition Services

The Rehabilitation Services (RS) program at the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) aims to empower youth to achieve their highest employment potential. Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), provided by RS and authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, are designed to help young people prepare for employment and self-reliance through job exploration counseling, workplace readiness training, and other services.



Students with disabilities are defined as individuals who are not younger than age 14 (the earliest age for the provision of transition services under IDEA) and not older than age 21.

Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible for disability services:



The student must be participating in a secondary, post-secondary or other recognized education program.

Educational programs include:

- secondary education programs
- non-traditional or alternative secondary education programs including home schooling
- post-secondary education programs
- other recognized educational programs, such as those offered through the juvenile justice system



The student must be eligible for and receiving services under an Individual Education Plan (IEP, special education);

OR



The student is an individual with a disability as defined under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

- An individual with a disability as defined in Section 504 means any person who:
 - Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities*; or
 - Has a record of such an impairment; or
 - Is regarded as having such an impairment.

**Major life activities include walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself and performing manual tasks.*

Students with disabilities may request Pre-ETS services directly or be referred by the Local Education Agency (LEA). RS will not implement any arbitrary age or time frame limit on when a student with a disability (as defined above) can submit a request for Pre-ETS services. RS will coordinate with the individual, the LEAs and the individual's IEP regarding initiation and provision of services.

Services are designed to be an early start at job exploration and to assist students with disabilities in making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive integrated employment.

With Pre-ETS services, students with disabilities can explore:

JOB EXPLORATION COUNSELING

Students will discover how their skills and interests match with jobs available in the labor market.

- Administer vocational interest inventories.
- Review labor market information.
- Explore jobs/careers in the community.
- Connect the student to other resources in the community.

SELF-ADVOCACY

Students will be empowered to express their needs and goals in a variety of settings such as school and work.

- Help students learn their rights and responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- Identify self-advocacy skills and why they are important.
- Help the student build their own advocacy skills.
- Connect students to other resources in the community.
- Help students learn to request accommodations or services and supports.

WORKPLACE READINESS TRAINING

Students will learn powerful core skills necessary for success in any job such as customer service, teamwork and teammate interactions, reporting to a supervisor, etc.

- Connect students with local career centers.
- Identify social and independent living skills.
- Identify and discuss employability skills.
- Connect students to other resources in the community.

COUNSELING ON COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION OR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Students will create a clear path to an employment future.

- Provide information to connect students to education opportunities including disability support services.
- Discuss reasonable accommodations for success in training and academic settings.
- Educate and inform students about post-secondary training programs.
- Connect students to other resources in the community.

WORK-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students will learn through experience to build the necessary skills to succeed in the workplace in addition to earning their own income.

- Facilitate job shadowing and/or mock interviews.
- Connect students to career track and/or other work-based learning programs.
- Identify local businesses for work-based learning experience opportunities.
- Facilitate volunteer and internship opportunities in the community.

Contact a Pre-ETS Transition Specialist in your community:

Call 1-866-213-9079

or

visit www.dcf.ks.gov

