



# Pre-Employment Transition Services

Empowering youth with disabilities to achieve their highest employment potential is one of the major goals of Rehabilitation Services (RS). To help achieve this goal, RS is providing Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), which were authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Pre-ETS are designed to provide job exploration, counseling and other services to help young people prepare for employment and self-reliance, rather than dependency on public benefits.

Coordination/collaboration between VR and Special Education is essential to assure that students with disabilities have access to the continuum of services they need to become employed and self-reliant. 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.

- In addition, 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; and other recognized educational programs, such as those offered through the juvenile justice system.
- The student meets one of the following criteria to verify disability: The student is eligible for and receiving services under an Individual Education Plan (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:
    - (1) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
    - (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or
    - (3) 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 request for Pre-ETS services. RS will coordinate with the individual, the LEAs and the individual's IEP regarding initiation of 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.

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## JOB EXPLORATION COUNSELING

Provides students with disabilities the opportunity to explore how their skills and interests match with jobs available in the labor market.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administer vocational interest inventories.</li><li>• Review labor market information.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explore jobs/careers in the community.</li><li>• Connect the student to other resources in the community.</li></ul> |
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## SELF ADVOCACY

Empowers students with disabilities to express their needs and goals in a variety of settings such as school and work.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Help students learn their rights and responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.</li><li>• Identify self-advocacy skills and why they are important.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Help the student build their own advocacy skills.</li><li>• Connect students to other resources in the community.</li><li>• Help students learn to request accommodations or services and supports.</li></ul> |
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## WORKPLACE READINESS TRAINING

Supplies students with disabilities with the opportunity to learn power skills necessary for success on the job, such as customer service, how to interact with co-workers, supervisors, being on time, etc.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect students with local career centers.</li><li>• Identify social and independent living skills.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify and discuss employability skills.</li><li>• Connect students to other resources in the community.</li></ul> |
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## COUNSELING ON COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION OR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Provides a clear path to an employment future for students with disabilities.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide information to connect students to education opportunities including disability support services.</li><li>• Discuss reasonable accommodations for success in training and academic settings.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Educate and inform students about post-secondary training programs.</li><li>• Connect students to other resources in the community.</li></ul> |
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## WORK-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Provides work-based learning experiences where youth can learn the skills necessary to succeed in the workplace and experience the benefits of earned income.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facilitate job shadowing and/or mock interviews.</li><li>• Connect students to career track and/or other work-based learning programs.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify local businesses for work-based learning experience opportunities.</li><li>• Facilitate volunteer and internship opportunities in the community</li></ul> |
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***For referral to the Pre-ETS Transition Specialist serving your community, please call the Rehabilitation Services toll-free Customer Service Line: 1-866-213-9079.***