

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is now able to work with high school and post-secondary students with disabilities ages 14–21 to provide a new set of services called Pre-Employment Transition Services. These services are designed to assist students to start preparing for education and employment at an earlier age.

What are Pre-Employment Transition Services?

- Job exploration counseling
- Work-based learning experiences
- Counseling on opportunities for post-secondary training and education
- Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
- Instruction in self-advocacy

How are they delivered?

Pre-Employment Transition Services are usually delivered to a group of students in a classroom or in the community. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation partners with schools, community organizations and Community Rehabilitation Providers to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services.

Does the student have to be a VR client in order to get Pre-Employment Transition Services?

No! Pre-Employment Transition Services are available to students with disabilities who are VR clients as well as to those who are “Potentially Eligible”. Students are “Potentially Eligible” if they have a disability and are likely to need VR services but have not yet applied and been found eligible (or ineligible) for VR services. All it takes to enroll in Pre-Employment Transition Services is to have the student’s parent or guardian (if under age 18) complete and sign the registration form/release and return it to the school or local VR office.

What kinds of activities will be offered?

Pre-Employment Transition Services are targeted to the needs of the students and school but typically they may include: Job tours, job shadows, college visits, career interest inventories, Job Club, guest speakers, the Transition Career Exploration Workshop and more!

What if a student needs an accommodation to participate?

VR will work with the student’s school or other participating organization to ensure that the Pre-Employment Transition Services activity is accessible.

What if a student needs more individualized transition services?

If a student or youth with a disability needs more individualized transition services than Pre-Employment Transition Services, then VR recommends that they apply for VR services two years before high school graduation or exit. Individualized transition services may include job development, job placement, job coaching and post-secondary education and training, or paid summer work.

For more information on how to apply for VR services go to:

www.maine.gov/rehab/dvr/youth_transition.shtml