

# School Transition Services

Empowering students with disabilities to explore their interests, discover their strengths, and pursue and achieve their employment aspirations.

VR New Hampshire services begin in high school and can continue throughout one's career. Our counselors help students with disabilities:



Think about what they will do once they leave high school



Plan for the future



Prepare for careers that match their skills, abilities, and interests

We provide these important vocational rehabilitation (VR) services in close partnership with the student, school staff, parents, guardians, and other influential adults in their life.

#### **Our Goal**

The goal of School Transition Services, which includes Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), is to ensure students with disabilities are positioned to successfully transition from school to college or career.

#### Pre-ETS

These services are designed to give students general information in the following five areas as they prepare for life after high school:

- Job exploration counseling
- Work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after school opportunities, experiences outside of the traditional school setting, and/or internships
- Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition of postsecondary educational programs

### **School Transition Services**

- Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
- Instruction in self-advocacy

# **Our Approach**

Pre-ETS are provided in a number of ways:

- Via workshops in high schools across the state led by a Student Transition Specialist
- Individualized VR services provided by a VR Transition Counselor or Student Transition Specialist
- Through a Community Rehabilitation Provider (CRP)

Pre-ETS services can be provided to students who have not yet applied for VR services or to students who are already receiving VR services. When a student participates in Pre-ETS, they can experience the following outcomes:

- Greater knowledge of the world of work, college, career, self, and what is required to prepare for life after high school
- Increased readiness to engage in VR services should they choose to apply
- Beneficial information to use when planning VR services with their Transition Counselor

#### **Individualized VR Services**

In this spirit, our VR counselors work closely with students, as well as school staff and family members as appropriate, to develop an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) that aligns with their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and transition goals. The focus of an IEP is *educational* services, while the focus of an IPE is *employment* services, and the two work together to create a roadmap for success in school and beyond.

The first step in developing an IPE is a thorough exploration of the student's interests, strengths, and employment goals. Based on those, it then specifies:

- An employment goal and the services needed to achieve it
- Who will provide and pay for those services
- · How the services will be evaluated
- · When employment is expected to occur

#### **Tailored to Individual Needs**

Services provided under an IPE are customized to each student's need and may include everything from job training and placement to job coaching to assistive technology tools. IPEs are reviewed yearly (or more often if necessary) and updated as needed.

VR New Hampshire's School Transition Services are guided by both the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

# For More Information



# **VR New Hampshire School Transition Services**

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