

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Goodwill Industries of the Valleys is partnering with the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) and the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to students, age 14 to 21, who are blind, vision impaired, deafblind, or who have a documented disability. DBVI, DARS, and Goodwill are committed to informing these students about unique employment transition service opportunities available. Goodwill offers two Pre-ETS programs options for students.

Individual Program Option

Students may choose an individualized Pre-ETS program approach that will allow for more customized training to help them be ready for employment upon graduation from high school. The program will provide the opportunity for students to refine work habits, develop work readiness skills, and also receive individualized support for resume building and interviewing skills while obtaining valuable work experience within the local community. The five pre-employment transition services categories are:

- Job Exploration Counseling
- Workplace Readiness Training
- Counseling for Post-Secondary Education
- Work-Based Learning Experience
- Instruction in Self-Advocacy

Goodwill's Pre-Employment Transition Services will provide a highly individualized program to prepare each student for the transition into competitive employment in an integrated setting.



Goodwill's Pre-Employment Transition Services provide assistance for youth to transition from school to work.

Group Program Option

The Community School to Work Transition Program is a group program that allows students with a disability to safely explore the world of work and prepare for the future during the students' regular school hours. The program places students in a variety of work-based learning experiences. The sites are developed by Goodwill in cooperation with local businesses. Students are placed within businesses that are compatible with their capabilities as well as their interests. Students train at sites each semester so they may have as many diverse job experiences as possible. Examples of community work-based learning experience locations include:

- Brandon Oaks
- Food Lion
- Macado's
- Sam's Club
- TJ Maxx
- Ferrum College
- Home Depot
- Roanoke College
- The Glebe

Students also participate in a 5-day classroom session each month. The classroom sessions will focus on Workplace Readiness Training to assist the students in the development of social and independent living skills. The classroom topics will focus on: Communication and Team Building, Self-Advocacy, Workplace Safety, Technology in the Workplace, Financial Literacy, and Preparing for and Maintaining Employment.



Students work in community businesses based on interests and capabilities.

The students will develop a portfolio that will contain certificates indicating skills gained; sample resumes, cover letters, applications, and thank you letters; interest reports; vocational recommendations; and contact information for areas of vocational interest.

Students are eligible for enrollment in the Community School to Work Transition Program if they are between the ages of 16 and 22 with a disability and referred by his/her individual school division. Goodwill will work with the individual school division, Case Manager, Transition Coordinator, and parent(s) to ensure that the Community School to Work Transition Program provides the pre-employment transition services the student needs to successfully transition from high school to employment.

**For more information on
Pre-Employment Transition Services
& the Community School to Work
Transition Program:
info@goodwillvalleys.com
(540) 581.0620 option 2**

