

DVR Pre-Employment Transition Programs

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) published a Request for Proposal and awarded contracts to providers to offer pre-employment services to students with disabilities as prescribed in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act. The goal is to provide several innovative employment focused programs to students with a disability, who are enrolled in school, ages 14 to 21. The following are the awarded contract providers. Students do not need to be open & eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation to access these services, unless otherwise noted.

***Interested youth, families and school advisors should contact providers to inquire about their program schedule, enrollment availability, and referral process.**

Agency Name	Contact Details	Location	Summer/ School Year	Population & Capacity	Program Description
Central Baptist In-Person & Virtual	Bernice Dunton or Sicily Bordrick 302-660-8124	NCC	School Year Summer	Students ages 14-21	4, 10-week sessions providing – Job Exploration Counseling, Post-Secondary Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, Work-Based Learning Experiences Students will participate in activities that make them aware of non-traditional career opportunities, explore vocational and academic training required for successful employment. Provide job seeking skills, resume writing, application assistance, and interview preparation. Services will also include self-awareness training, identifying goals, strengths, and weaknesses, and negotiation skills training. Sessions will provide work-site tours, job shadowing, and paid and unpaid work-based learning experiences.
CIS	Sandi Hanley 302-376-8259 sandi.hanley@cisworks .org	Statewide	School Year Summer	Students ages 14-21	4, 6-week, 3 times per week programs providing – Job Exploration Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Work-Based Learning Experiences Classroom instruction will help students explore career related to their interests, skills, and abilities, develop independent living and work readiness skills. Students will participate in activities with the goal of developing workplace skills and gaining real-world work experience. Students may be paid a stipend for up to 60 hours of participation in WBL activities.
Easterseals	Jane Schuler 302-221-2030 jschuler@esdel.org	Statewide	April - July	Students ages 16-21	Job Exploration Counseling, Self-Advocacy, Workplace Readiness, and Work-Based Learning. April - Three (3) sessions designed to gather information related to individual interest. The overall goal is to identify a top three (3) job interests, as well as identify individual strengths (April). May - Three (3) sessions designed to improve individual skills and behaviors linked with self-determination and independence. _ June - Three (3) sessions designed to provide information and practice in work skills, social skills, safety skills and job search skills. July - Three (3) week paid summer internship. Students will be matched with a community employer based on individual skills and interests and will work twelve (12) hours each week. This includes on-site job assistance and peer mentoring supports to each student participating.

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Food Bank of Delaware	<p>Milford Location: Michelle Cephas 302-424-3301 ext. 107 mcephas@fbd.org</p> <p>Newark Location: Diana McDaniel Dmcdaniel@fbd.org 302-292-1305 X230</p>	Open to students Statewide with locations in Milford and Newark	Summer	Students ages 16-21	4-weeks, 4 days a week Culinary Summer Program at the Milford or Newark training kitchens providing – Job Exploration Counseling Post-Secondary Counseling Workplace Readiness Self-Advocacy Work-Based Learning Experiences Students will learn about different jobs and careers in the food service industry in Delaware. Students will identify training, education, or employment pathways required to pursue their career interests. They will identify transportation resources, and learn resume writing and interview skills building. Students will learn self-advocacy skills for identifying and requesting support and accommodation needs in training or employment settings. Through ServSafe Food Handlers curriculum students will learn safe food handling practices, will attend work-site tours, and participate in a WBL experience.
Goodwill	Tracey Mulveny 302-504-3556 tmulveny@goodwill.org	NCC	School Year and Summer	Students ages 14-21	School Year and Summer programs providing – Job Exploration Counseling, Workplace Readiness, Work-Based Learning Experiences, Self-Advocacy The objective of this program is to increase students’ knowledge and application of workplace soft skills through our Ready -to- Hire Curriculum. The course of training will help individuals transition to employment following graduation and equip them with invaluable transferable skills to carry with them throughout life. This twelve-week program also provides a paid hands-on workplace training and job skills learning experiences to help students evaluate potential career options in various work environments. School teachers and para educators are present on site at Goodwill during the school year and hands-on throughout the duration of the program to assist each student with acclimating to the process. The program was redesigned to accommodate an in person and/or virtual classroom setting. GOODWorks is an experience for teenagers and young adults to learn new skills, not only to gain and retain employment, but to achieve new levels of comprehension in capacities they have never experienced before.

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Humanity's Kitchen	Richard Carter 302-444-8609 ext 101 rcarter@humanityskitchen.org www.humanityskitchen.org for online application & brochures	Statewide NCC Hybrid & Virtual Kent & Sussex – Virtual	School Year and Summer	Students ages 14-21	6- Week After school and 3-Week Summer Camp programs providing- Job Exploration Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Work-Based Learning Experiences Students will have a better understanding of the food service industry, be able to cook basic meals at home, and report increased knowledge and demonstrated increased ability in culinary skills area and life skills. <i>Program Highlights</i> –ServSafe Food Handlers Certificate in Food Safety & Sanitation, Weekly food cards to purchase ingredients during virtual learning, \$100 stipend for successful completion of the program, Chef coat, Hat, & Apron provided, Life Skills & Resume Building.
Independent Resources, Inc.	Marsha Nowotny 302-536-1387 mnowotny@iri-de.org	Statewide	School Year and Summer	Students ages 14-21	8-week programs providing- Job Exploration Counseling, Post-Secondary Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, Work-Based Learning Experiences Assist students with exploring career opportunities that fit their interests, skills, and abilities. Assist students with exploring opportunities for enrolling in higher education. Develop independent living and work readiness skills in consideration of the unique needs of each student. provides self-advocacy instruction based on the unique needs of the student(s). Work-based learning experiences may include opportunities that are after school or outside the traditional school setting. These experiences must be provided in an integrated setting to the maximum extent possible.
Merakey	Maggie Giles 225-590-3124 Maggie.Giles@merakey.org	NCC	School Year and Summer	14-21 <i>Specializing in work with ASD and IDD population</i>	10-week programs providing – Career Exploration, Post-Secondary Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, and Work-Based Learning Experiences. Students will walk away with a greater understanding and independence in determining and pursuing their career paths, as well as experience to propel them further into their future careers. Utilizes the Life Centered Education curriculum as a baseline but adapts to needs of the individual or group being served. Providing Work-Based Learning Experiences through partnerships with local businesses and worksites and connecting the group and individuals to other local employers, agencies, and resources as necessary to ensure independence.

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NaviGate Aspiring Professionals Career Exploration Program	Felicia Aline 302-853-0046 felicia@navigateetc.com	Sussex and Kent Counties	School Year and Summer	Students ages 14-21	10-week programs providing - Job Exploration Counseling, Post-Secondary Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, Work-Based Learning Experiences. Help students identify career interests, explore career options, and provide them with opportunities that will prepare them for the transition to employment and/or post-secondary education.
Service Source: In-Person & Virtual	Suzanne Cash 302-765-1222 cash.suzanne@servicesource.org	Statewide	School Year and Summer	Students ages 16-21	In-Person - 4-week programs or Virtual –7-week programs providing - Job Exploration Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Work-Based Learning Experiences. In-person - 4-week paid internship at employer site 20 hours a week, Monday to Thursday. Intern sites include various Walgreen stores throughout state, Westin Hotel, Embassy Suites, Marshalls, Home Goods, Home Sense, and Dover Downs. Virtual – 7-weeks, with two-hour group sessions providing Workplace Readiness Training and Work Based Learning Experiences as scheduled cooperatively with partnering schools. Each student also receives four hours of one-to-one Job Exploration Counseling, which also occurs over the program and is scheduled cooperatively with partnering schools.
University of Delaware: In Person & Virtual	Rebecca Jewell 302-381-7550 rejewell@udel.edu	Statewide	School Year	Students ages 16-21	Virtual -15 weeks In-Person – UD campus 15 weeks providing - Job Exploration Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, Work-Based Learning Experiences Over the course of this 15-week course, students will meet 2 times per week on campus at the University of Delaware for in-person program and virtually for the virtual program and will engage in an in-depth research project on at least one post-high school career option. Weekly class sessions on topics related to career exploration, professional communication, and self-advocacy. Students will also receive individualized job shadow experiences.
University of Delaware: UDISCOVER	Rebecca Jewell 302-381-7550 rejewell@udel.edu	Statewide	Summer	Students ages 16-21	UD campus 3 weeks providing - Job Exploration Counseling, Post-Secondary Counseling, Workplace Readiness Training, Self-Advocacy, Work-Based Learning Experiences Students will engage in research on post-high school career and education options, workshops on topics including self-advocacy, independent living, goal setting, individualized job shadow experiences, college visits to the University of Delaware and Del Tech