

Pre-Employment Transition Services

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and requires Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies to set aside federal funds for the provision of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to "students with disabilities who are eligible or potentially eligible for VR services." This is a great opportunity to ensure students have access to meaningful career planning in order to help with the seamless movement from high school to employment or post-secondary training.

What are Pre-Employment Transition Services?

The five core services of Pre-ETS are listed, along with examples of those services (Pre-ETS is not limited to the examples listed):

- 1 Job exploration counseling
 - Discussion of students' vocational interests
 - Review of local labor market and in-demand industries and occupations
 - Non-traditional employment options
 - Identification of career pathways of interest to the students
- 2 Work-based learning experiences
 - Apprenticeships and job shadowing
 - Paid and non-paid internships and/or work experiences
 - Informational interviews
 - Volunteering
- 3 Counseling on postsecondary opportunities
 - Gaining awareness of career pathways
 - Promoting participation in postsecondary education
 - Attending college fairs and tours
 - Accessing services and supports from agencies that assist peoples with disabilities
- 4 Workplace readiness training
 - Receive training on communication, problem solving, and other specific social and interpersonal skills as well as independent living skills.
- 5 Instruction in self—advocacy
 - Training on self-awareness, disclosure of disability, and knowing individual rights and responsibilities.

Who is a "Student with a Disability"?

A student with a disability is an individual with a disability in a secondary, postsecondary, or other recognized education program who:

- is between the ages of 14 and 22 years old
- is eligible for, and receiving, special education or related services under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IEP, 504 plan)

Currently, there are 10 Pre-ETS contractors, who are collaborating with other providers, to deliver pre-employment transition services in all Indiana counties (though not yet to every school in these counties). Please contact the following individuals to determine if Pre-ETS is available in your school:

Bona Vista: Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Howard, Madison, Miami*, Tipton, and Wabash Counties.

Contact: Meredith Freeman, mrfreeman@bonavista.org

Miami County is dually covered by Bona Vista and PEAK. For more information about PEAK contact Harrison Smith, hsmith@PEAKCommunity.com

Easterseals ARC of NE Indiana: Allen*, LaGrange, and Whitley Counties.

Contact: Ashley Gettys, agettys@esarc.org

Allen County is dually covered by Easterseals ARC of NE Indiana and GAP-LOCC. For more information about GAPLOCC contact Kathleen Savich, kathie.savich@oppent.org.

Easterseals Crossroads: Boone, Clay, Clinton, Fountain, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Montgomery, Morgan, Parke, Putnam, Rush, Shelby, Tippecanoe, Warren, and Wayne Counties.

Contact: Dwana Back, dback@eastersealscrossroads.org

GAP-LOCC: Adams, Allen*, DeKalb, Elkhart, Huntington, Lake, LaPorte, Noble, Porter, St. Joseph*, Steuben, and Wells Counties.

Contact: Kathleen Savich, kathie.savich@oppent.org

Allen County is dually covered by Easterseals ARC of NE Indiana and GAP-LOCC. For more information about Easterseals ARC of NE Indiana contact Ashley Gettys, agettys@esarc.org. St. Joseph County is dually covered by GAP-LOCC and PEAK. For more information about PEAK contact Harrison Smith, hsmith@PEAKCommunity.com

New Horizons: Dearborn, Fayette, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, and Union Counties.

Contact: Holly Rosenbarger, hrosenbarger@nhrinc.org

PEAK: Carroll, Cass, Fulton, Jasper, Kosciusko, Marshall, Miami*, Pulaski, St. Joseph*, Starke, Whitley*, and White Counties.

Contact: Harrison Smith, hsmith@PEAKcommunity.com

Miami County is dually covered by PEAK and Bona Vista. For more information about Bona Vista contact Meredith Freeman, mrfreeman@bonavista.org. St. Joseph is dually covered by PEAK and GAP-LOCC. For more information about GAP-LOCC contact Kathleen Savich, kathie.savich@oppent.org. Whitley County is dually covered by PEAK and Easterseals ARC. For more information about Easterseals ARC contact Ashley Gettys, agettys@esarc.org.

Prairie Quest Consulting: Jay and Randolph Counties.

Contact: Erin Brady, ebrady@pqcworks.com

Public Consulting Group: Benton, Newton, and Vermillion Counties.

Contact: Amy Howie, ahowie@pccgus.com

Stonebelt: Bartholomew, Browne, Davies, Decatur, Greene, Jackson, Jennings, Knox, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Owen, and Sullivan Counties.

Contact: Bitta DeWees, bdewees@stonebelt.org

Sycamore: Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Jefferson, Orange, Perry, Pike, Posey, Scott, Spencer, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Vigo, Warrick, Washington Counties.

Contact: Patti Sebanc, pssebanc@sycamoreservices.com

For further information, please contact either Will Colteryahn at (317) 232-1966 or william.colteryahn@fssa.in.gov or Jonathan Kraeszig at (317) 232-1964 or jonathan.kraeszig@fssa.in.gov.