

Fostering Independence: Pathways to Employment

Students and graduates with disabilities have many pathways to finding employment that is the right fit. Here are some options to consider.

Community-based work experience with coaching support

- Short-term or long-term coaching support available
- Find opportunities through placement services
- Evaluation and feedback to IEP team
- School district-supported programs for students
- Agency-supported programs post-graduation

Work Study

- Often school district sponsored
- Usually half-day, scheduled in the afternoon
- Evaluations and schedules checked

Cooperative education (co-op)

- Available after student completes competencies
- Student placed in part-time work in his/her field of study
- Support provided by co-op teacher
- Part of district's Career and Technical Education Program

Summer work

- Yearlong program
- Administered by Office of Employment and Training (OET)
- Parent supported

Other opportunities

- Job shadowing
- Volunteer position
- Apprenticeship
- District-sponsored opportunity
- Field trips for career education
- Technical education field experience
- Outside agency-sponsored events
- Career fairs
- Self-employment
- Summer job
- Part-time work
- Assisting family/friends/mentors with chores

