

**New York State**  *transition partners*

Learning Community  
February 27, 2020

[www.nystransitionpartners.org](http://www.nystransitionpartners.org)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:  
EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS**  
NYS TRANSITION PARTNERS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Anne Spisiak**  
Executive Director  
Cantalician Center for Learning 



33 years of experience in working  
with people who want to work.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Learning Goals

- ▶ Knowledge of vocational options available during and after high school
- ▶ Information about accessing services
- ▶ Gain a better understanding of how to navigate employment systems

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Now what?

The diagram consists of three small images connected by arrows. The first image shows a yellow school bus with students. The second image shows blue graduation caps falling. The third image shows a group of people in a meeting or classroom setting.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### So many...Where do I start?

A collage of ten different images of doors and entrances, including a blue double door, a red double door, a green door, a blue door, a glass revolving door, a white doorway, a black doorway, a stone archway, a red door, and a wooden door with an American flag.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)**

> [www.opwdd.ny.gov](http://www.opwdd.ny.gov)




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities **OPWDD**

<p><b>Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Documented Disability before the age of 22             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Intellectual disability</li> <li>&gt; Autism</li> <li>&gt; Cerebral Palsy</li> <li>&gt; Neurological Impairment</li> <li>&gt; Closely related conditions that limited intellectual functioning</li> </ul> </li> <li>&gt; Call 1-800-487-6310 Front Door</li> </ul>	<p><b>Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Care Management</li> <li>&gt; Residential supports</li> <li>&gt; <b>Supported employment</b></li> <li>&gt; Environmental modifications</li> <li>&gt; Health care (Medicaid)</li> <li>&gt; Day Services</li> <li>&gt; Health clinics</li> <li>&gt; Training and advocacy</li> </ul>
---	---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Office of Mental Health (OMH)**

> [www.omh.ny.gov](http://www.omh.ny.gov)




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**OMH Adults**  **Office of Mental Health**

**Eligibility**

- ▶ Adults (over 18)
- ▶ Diagnosed with a Severely and Persistently Mental Illness (SPMI) by a licensed mental health professional
- ▶ Call 716-816-2001 or call your County Department of Mental Health

**Services**

- ▶ Clinic treatment
- ▶ Day services
- ▶ **Employment services**
- ▶ Functional Family Therapy
- ▶ Intensive Case Management
- ▶ School-Based mental health services
- ▶ Supportive Case management
- ▶ Family Support Services

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)**

▶ [www.acces.nysed.gov/vr](http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr)




---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---

**ACCES-VR**  **New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**  
ADULT CAREER & CONTINUING ED SERVICES

**Eligibility**

- ▶ Physical or Mental impairment that impedes employment
- ▶ Ability to benefit from services
- ▶ Services are necessary to overcome employment barriers
- ▶ Call 1-888-652-7062

**Services**

- ▶ Vocational counseling
- ▶ Job Placement Services
- ▶ Job skills training
- ▶ **Supported employment**
- ▶ Driver evaluation/training
- ▶ Assistive technology evaluation
- ▶ Work related books, tools, and Licenses

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB)

▶ [www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/cb](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/cb)



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Commission for the Blind NYSCB

### Eligibility

- ▶ Legally blind
    - ▶ Visual acuity is 20/200 or less in better eye
    - ▶ Vision field of 140 degrees or less in the better eye
  - ▶ Have one or more physical or mental impairments that keep them from working
  - ▶ Need rehabilitation services to get employment
  - ▶ Benefit from services
- ▶ Call (716) 847-3516

### Services

- ▶ Rehabilitation Services
- ▶ Training for Employment
- ▶ Business enterprise program
- ▶ Programs for older adults
- ▶ Programs for children
- ▶ Counseling and family guidance
- ▶ Advocacy services

---

---

---

---

---

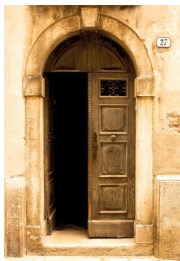
---

---

---

## College Disability Services

▶ <http://www.wnycda.org/>



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### College Disability Services



Eligibility

- ▶ Self-disclosure of disability
- ▶ Documentation of disability
- ▶ Check college Websites for
  - ▶ Accessibility Office
  - ▶ Disability Service office

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Department of Labor (DOL)

- ▶ [www.labor.state.ny.us](http://www.labor.state.ny.us)



---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



Eligibility

- ▶ Universal access

Services

- ▶ Unemployment Benefits
- ▶ Career Services
  - ▶ Finding a job
  - ▶ Planning your career
- ▶ Career Centers
- ▶ Worker protection
- ▶ O\*Net

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

**ACCES-VR**

Referrals to ACCES-VR should be completed with your school counselor or transition coordinator at your school district.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)**

- > Job Exploration Counseling
- > Work-Based Learning Experiences
- > Counseling on Post Secondary Options
- > Workplace Readiness Training
- > Instruction in Self-Advocacy

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**PRE ETS – Employment Training Services for Students**

**Target Population**

1. Students in Secondary, Post-Secondary, Non-Traditional or Alternative Education Programs
2. Age 14-21
3. Have a Disability
4. Have a Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or are Eligible for a Section 504 Plan
5. Potentially Eligible-Don't currently receive services from ACCES-VR

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Individualized Plans for Employment – will be created with your vocational rehabilitation counselor and act as a road map to employment. The plan will may include:

- Vocational Counseling
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Technology
- Special Transportation
- Driver Training
- Work Readiness
- Tuition and fees for college and vocational training
- Note takes
- Housing modifications
- Job development
- Work Try out
- Job Coaching
- Occupational tools
- Assistance with self employment

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

OPWDD's goal is to increase the number of people gaining and retaining employment, earning minimum wage or more, and working in community, integrated jobs.

Referral for all services are through your Care Coordinator.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Pre Employment Services

### Site Based Prevocational Services

- Prepare individuals for jobs that pay minimum wage in an integrated setting.
- Provide opportunities to participate in volunteer and vocational community experiences for an extended period of time.
- Include Discovery, job readiness skill development, transportation training, etc.
- Utilize person-centered, employment planning services.

### Community Prevocational Services (CPV)

- Occur primarily in community, integrated settings such as volunteer sites, community businesses, etc.
- Are provided in small person-centered groups.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Pathway to Employment Services

Developing a Career and Vocational Plan at the completion of the service.

- Person-centered planning with the individual, family, friends, and support staff to develop a plan of action.
- Learning about the individual's history, community experiences, interests, skills and preferences to identify vocational strengths, skills, and interests.
- Participating in 3 varied community work experiences.
- Participating in job-related skills training and strengthen work-readiness skills.
- Preparing individuals for competitive employment in jobs that pay minimum wage in an integrated setting.
- Time-limited services are for up to ONE YEAR (may request one extension).

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## What is the difference between CPV and Pathway

Community PreVoc	Pathway to Employment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Who:</b> Individuals who need longer term supports to obtain or retain integrated community employment</li> <li>▶ <b>What:</b> Work-related skills training, Discovery, community volunteer opportunities, health/safety skills, travel training, benefits planning, annual assessment</li> <li>▶ <b>Where:</b> Primarily in the community, may use a hub site on limited basis</li> <li>▶ <b>When:</b> up to 30 hours a week, on-going as supported by annual assessment</li> <li>▶ <b>Why:</b> to develop skills and experiences to gain or retain integrated community employment which may take more than 1 year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Who:</b> Individuals who have some work/volunteer experiences and a goal of integrated community employment</li> <li>▶ <b>What:</b> Planning, Discovery, job-readiness skills, 3 work experiences, travel training, benefits planning, community/vocational Plan</li> <li>▶ <b>Where:</b> primarily in the community</li> <li>▶ <b>When:</b> typically 5-10 hours a week and wraps around current services, up to 278 hours per year</li> <li>▶ <b>Why:</b> to create a career/vocational plan to create with a goal of employment in the shorter-term future</li> </ul>

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT (SEMP)

SEMP offers on-going supports for individuals to gain and maintain integrated jobs in the community earning at least minimum wage and working alongside of workers without disabilities in the general workforce. It offers individuals an opportunity to participate in the following services:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Job development (after ACCES-VR or ETP)</li> <li>➢ Job coaching</li> <li>➢ Employment skills training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Job retention strategies</li> <li>➢ Benefits planning</li> <li>➢ Career planning</li> </ul>
---	--

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Employment Training Program (ETP)

The Employment Training Program (ETP) wages are funded through New York State OPWDD and support services are funded by SEMP fees. ETP offers individuals an opportunity to participate in the following services:

- > Brief Discovery (unless completed in Pathway)
- > PAID internship at a community business that, if successful, leads to being employed by that business.
- > Job Coaching
- > Job Readiness Training for a time limited period leading to paid employment in an integrated job earning at least minimum wage. After ETP, if employed, the person will continue be supported through Extended SEMP services.

---

---

---

---

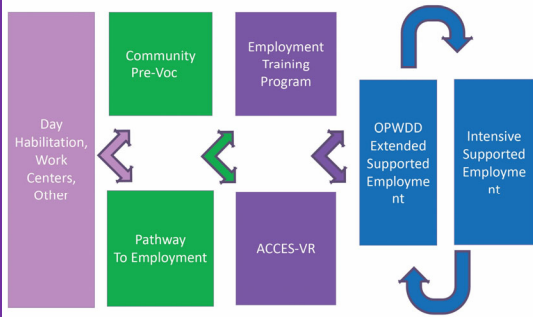
---

---

---

---

### How Do OPWDD Employment Services Flow?




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### Questions or Clarifications

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Thank you for attending our Learning Community!

[www.nystransitionpartners.org](http://www.nystransitionpartners.org)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---