

Pre-ETS Activities

Pre-Employment Transition Services, Pre-ETS for short, offer students with disabilities early access to explore career options and training. Virginia's Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) works with schools, students, and their families to provide these services to students as early as age 14. Pre-ETS helps students discover their career interests, practice skills needed in the workplace, improve job skills through real work experiences, and explore options after high school.

Examples of Pre-ETS Activities

Pre-ETS Category	School Activities	Student Activities
Job Exploration Counseling Explore career interests and foster motivation to set and reach students' postsecondary career goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administer interest inventories• Invite employers to speak to students• Provide information on career-related student organizations at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete career interest inventories• Identify career clusters of interest• Attend a career fair• Explore diverse care careers
Work-Based Learning Experiences Visit or work at a job site to gain knowledge and skills that connect school experiences to career opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a school-based enterprise• Offer instruction in workplace readiness, financial literacy, and travel training• Match students with a work experience of interest within the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct informational interviews• Participate in job shadowing• Go on a workplace tour• Complete an internship

Pre-ETS Category	School Activities	Student Activities
<p>Counseling on Educational and Training Options</p> <p>Learn about training and education opportunities available after high school that match students' career interests.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host college tours • Provide information about the wide range of postsecondary programs (college, community college, training, apprenticeships, certifications, etc.) • Offer Career and Technical Education program information sessions • Conduct PSAT and SAT workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend college fairs or tour a college campus • Connect with a counselor and transition team to plan for transition • Shadow classes at a local career and technical school or college
<p>Workplace Readiness Training</p> <p>Prepare students for work and adult life by developing social and independent living skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with resume writing • Provide instruction on job search strategies • Teach about appropriate hygiene for employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop money management and budgeting skills • Schedule and attend an SSI/SSDI benefits counseling session • Complete a mock interview
<p>Instruction in Self-Advocacy</p> <p>Build students' skills in communication, specifically the ability to communicate wants and needs and demonstrate self-direction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach students how to ask for their accommodations and provide opportunities for them to practice • Provide opportunities for students to lead their IEP or 504 meetings • Encourage students to participate in leadership opportunities in school and after-school clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a presentation of recent graduates to learn about their experiences after graduation • Practice disclosing disability on the job • Lead IEP meeting

Learn More about Pre-ETS

To learn more about Pre-ETS, contact the school DARS counselor, student's case manager, 504 Coordinator, or the school staff member responsible for special education transition planning and coordination.

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