

Seven Critical Steps to Employment for Individuals with Disabilities

- 1. On-Campus Work-Based Learning
 - a. Beginner level, job-related skills and behaviors
 - b. Simulated work experiences
 - c. Campus-based enterprises
 - d. Job Coaching and Data Collection
 - e. Data-Shaped Decision-Making
- 2. Community Work-Based Learning
 - a. Career awareness and investigation
 - b. Data-Shaped WBL/CBVI placements for specific skill acquisition
- 3. Skill Readiness
 - a. Matching job skill and behavior training to specific employment targets
 - b. Self-assessment and student monitored progress
 - c. Job search skills
 - d. Virtual and Print Resumes; Virtual Portfolios, Video resumes
 - e. Networking
- 4. Emotional Readiness
 - a. Job-related social skills training
 - b. Success builds Success
 - c. Effective communication in the World of Work
 - d. WBL Culture: dress, eye contact, etc
 - e. Self-Determination Skills: self-awareness, positive self-talk, problem-solving, goal setting, etc
 - f. Managing stress, distractions, struggles, and individualized barriers
- 5. Partner Readiness
 - a. School/Parent/Community Support Team
 - b. Shared Values: Worth, needed, it is "important for & important to"
 - c. Confirm: all partners are on the same page with a common visions
 - d. Respect/Dignity: the training and employment meet this criteria for the student and parents/guardians
 - e. Results: are calculated for all partners and their roles/responsibilities
- 6. Internship
 - a. Strengths, needs, interests and preferences
 - b. Internships to Employment: specific skills instruction and managing employment risks
 - i. Employers worry about the ability to do the job, the ability to learn new things, stamina, support needs, and sustainability
 - c. Cross-functional approach for all partners
 - d. Analyzing structural barriers
 - e. Productivity Analysis and Instruction
 - f. Levels of Support
 - g. Data collection and "Partner Measured Performance Improvements"
- 7. Sustainability
 - a. Transportation needs and barriers
 - b. Evaluating results using the Sustainability Matrix
 - c. Person-Centered Thinking or the Life Plan (Dr. Mitchell)
 - d. Functional Instruction for Employment Matrix
 - e. District to Community Resource Transfers of Instruction and Support
 - f. District partners with the family and/or other support person as the case managers