



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF
**HUMAN
SERVICES**



State of Arkansas Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

Excerpt: The Division of
Services for the Blind-
Core Partner Submission





1. Serve high school students beginning at age 14 until they graduate high school. (504 or IEP)
2. Increase the **work experience opportunities** and the **knowledge base** of students to make informed decisions.
3. Coordinate with Local Education Agencies (LEAs) !

section 113 of the Act and 361.48 (a)

DSB PRE-ETS GOALS



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What are Pre-ETS Services?

These services help students explore their options.

- Begin when recommended for one or more pre-employment transition services and documentation of a disability is provided to the VR agency;
- Assist students with identifying career interests;
- Must be provided or arranged in collaboration with LEAs; and
- are the only activities that can be paid for with the funds reserved under section 110(d)(1) of the Act.



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What are Pre-ETS Services?

5 required activities:

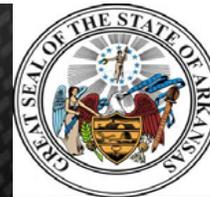
(section 113(b) of the Act and §361.48(a)(2)):

1. Job exploration counseling;
2. Work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school, after school, or community-based opportunities;
3. Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs;
4. Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living; and
5. Instruction in self-advocacy, including peer mentoring.



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What are Pre-ETS Services?

Job Exploration

1. Information regarding in-demand industry sectors and occupations, as well as nontraditional employment;
2. Information about labor market composition;
3. Administration of vocational interest inventories; and
4. Identification of career pathways of interest to the students.



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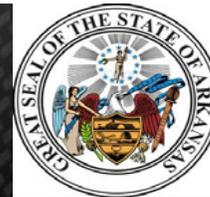
Job Exploration for the Blind and Visually Impaired



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

Career Advantage
Program

www.blind/msstate.edu/advantage can be used to assess skills and abilities.



What are Pre-ETS Services?

Work-Based Learning

- In-school opportunities;
- After school opportunities;
- Integrated settings in the community;

Placements Locations

- Law Offices
- Animal Hospitals
- Medical Clinics
- Learning Centers and more!



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Counseling on enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs;

Choose Wisely,
Your Future
Depends On It.



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Workplace Readiness Training

Social skills and independent living skills necessary to prepare for eventual employment. These services could teach skills such as:

- Communication and interpersonal skills;
- Financial literacy;
- Group orientation and mobility skills (i.e., to access workplace readiness training or to learn to travel independently);
- Job-seeking skills; and
- Understanding employer expectations for punctuality and preparation

<http://www.afb.org/info/living-with-vision-loss/for-job-seekers/for-teens/aarons-adventures-in-employment/dress-and-impress-4314/12345>



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Instruction in self-advocacy

It's so essential to surround yourself with individuals who are **ALREADY** where you want to be. Iron sharpens iron.

Tweegram ©



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Instruction in Self Advocacy

Classroom lessons :

1. Learn about their rights and responsibilities;

Learn how to request accommodations or services and supports;

2. Communicate their thoughts, concerns, and needs, in order to prepare them for peer mentoring opportunities with individuals working in their area(s) of interest.



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Instruction in Self Advocacy

For information on successful adults who are blind check out the National Federation of the Blind Kernel Books at www.nfb.org/nfb/Kernel_Books.asp.

The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) has a registry to contact workers and mentors who are blind through Career Connect (www.afb.org/cc)



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CURRENT PROGRAMS

➤ JUMPSTART.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjYFgcZrWJA&feature=youtu.be>

➤ WSB TRANSITION TRAINING PROGRAM.

➤ COLLEGE PREP PROGRAMS OFFERED THROUGH THE LOCAL COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES.





- Register with the Services for Students with Disabilities
- Register with Learning Ally
www.learningally.org
- Register for Bookshare. FREE for students with visual impairments
www.bookshare.org

Accessible formats and register for special accommodations:

www.collegeboard.com/ssd/student/index.html

For ACT accommodations:

www.act.org/aap/disab/

**For Those
Graduating and
Entering Training
Beyond High
School**



Where Do We Find Internships, OJT, Volunteer Experiences, etc?

ARKANSAS businesses certified by the National Organization on Disability :

JBHunt- Tyson- Sams/WalMart-HP-
Lowe's-Baptist-Walgreens-TJ Maxx-
HomeGoods-Verizon-AIG-Remington-
Sodexo-Toys R Us-Prudential-Northrop
Grumman-Aetna-Coke-The University of
Arkansas System.

Questions/Comments?

DHS/DSB

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