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Fast Facts

PreETS.org — Virginia's Collaborative Model for Pre-Employment Transition Services

Pre-ETS & Postsecondary Education

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) are services provided by state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies. Pre-ETS are available to students with disabilities aged 14-21 to help them prepare for future work. While Pre-ETS are commonly provided at the high school level, they can also be helpful for students in postsecondary education programs.

Postsecondary Education & Pre-ETS

Students with disabilities can access postsecondary education through colleges and universities, community colleges, and vocational or technical schools. In order for students to receive Pre-ETS in their postsecondary program, they must be working towards a credential. A recognized postsecondary credential includes an industry-recognized certificate or certification; a certificate of completion of an apprenticeship; a license recognized by the state or the federal government; or an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree.

Earning credentials help students with disabilities access higher-paying jobs and open doors to additional meaningful employment opportunities. Students enrolled in recognized educational programs working towards a credential may be eligible to receive Pre-ETS. These services could be provided on their school campus, at local VR offices, or in the community.

Pre-ETS

There are 5 types of Pre-ETS: Job Exploration Counseling, Work-Based Learning Experiences, Counseling on Postsecondary Educational and Training Options, and Instruction in Self-Advocacy. Below are examples of services and activities that can help students in postsecondary education prepare for work.



Job Exploration Counseling

- Exploring career types associated with different college majors
- Conducting labor-market research on where a planned post-college job may be located
- Looking into class options as they relate to career goals



Work-Based Learning Experiences

- Exploring internships related to a major
- Conducting informational interviews with professionals in the field
- Shadowing employees in different work environments
- Attending worksite or business tours to learn more about career areas



Counseling on Postsecondary Educational & Training Options

- Learning about class accommodations and supports, such as extra time and private room testing
- Researching additional future credentials for career advancement



Workplace Readiness Training

- Practicing social skills and professional expectations
- Preparing for interviews and practicing answering questions
- Practicing travel training for internships or navigating the campus



Instruction in Self-Advocacy

- Practicing social skills and professional Learning how, why, and when to disclose disability information
- Practicing asking for help and support
- Practicing pay negotiations in the interview process

Summary

Pre-ETS are a set of available services for students with disabilities. While these services are often provided in high school, they can be useful in college and postsecondary education as well. Pre-ETS are just the beginning of the continuum of services that VR agencies offer, and are a great place to start for

More information about DARS can be found at their [Employment Services for Students webpage](#) or by calling 804-662-7000.

