

# Mizzou Ed

## MU-Pre-Employment Transition Services

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2015

POWER<sup>T</sup>HEKNOWLEDGE

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## Our purpose ...

to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with disabilities ages 16 -21 who are in need of such services, still enrolled in high school, and have not yet been determined eligible for VR services.

We do serve students from age 14 if so directed in an IEP. They are in a whole group being served or in ongoing pilots!

We do NOT manage summer work programs.

Working to qualify students earlier!

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## Our mandate ...

To work in collaboration with the local education agencies and Vocational Rehabilitation in the provision of the following five required PETS activities, identified in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), to students with disabilities enrolled in Missouri secondary schools.

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# Activity 1

Job exploration counseling

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# Examples

- Develop a Missouri Connections account profile and use other tools; such as pictorial interest inventories.
- Use career interest inventories
- Assist with Personal Plan of Study or Four Year Plans
- Input on IEP or 504 plan

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# Activity 2

- Work-based learning experiences, which may include in-school or after-school opportunities or experience outside the traditional school setting (including internships) that is provided in an integrated environment to the maximum extent possible.

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# Examples

- Facilitate job-shadowing days and field day to the local career centers.
- Aid students to identify and connect students to career tech, school flex, Pathways to Prosperity, and/or other work-based learning programs that are available to all students in the district.
- Coordinate mock job interviews
- Assist the LEA staff, and VR counselor/business specialist to identify work experience opportunities for students in the local community.

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# Activity 3

- Counseling opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or post-secondary educational programs at institutions of higher education

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# Examples

- Educate and inform students of short and long term post-secondary training opportunities and local disability support services offices at local colleges.
- Research degree or credential requirements for jobs within the student's career pathway of interest
- Participate in LEA Career and Transition Fairs, FAFSA Frenzy events, etc.
- Assist the student and their families in understanding the financial aid process.

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## Activity 4

- Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living

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## Examples

- Connect students and their families to the local Center for Independent Living
- Work with students to identify and measure work readiness skills such as:
  - Attendance
  - Punctuality
  - Workplace appearance
  - Taking initiative
  - Teamwork
  - Quality of work
  - Communication skills
  - Response to supervision
  - Problem-solving/critical thinking
  - Workplace culture, policy and safety
- Review and discuss transportation options available for students in getting to and from work.
- Support the student's social connectedness

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## Activity 5

- Instruction in self-advocacy which may include peer mentoring

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# Examples

- Work with students to identify what is self-advocacy and why is it important.
- Utilize existing resources and materials to help students learn how to practice speaking up, leading their IEP/504 or other personal planning meetings.
- Pair the student with a peer mentor, including A+ mentors, and work with the school to identify other students who would serve as a mentors.
- Work with the students to practice self-advocacy and skill building through real life activities, such as ordering a meal in a restaurant, etc.

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# Our Partnerships BSG

- Students
- School Districts
- Families
- Businesses
- Communities
- DESE-VR
- DESE – Sp. Ed.
- DESE – College & Career Readiness
- Missouri Dept. of Mental Health
- Various Community Agencies

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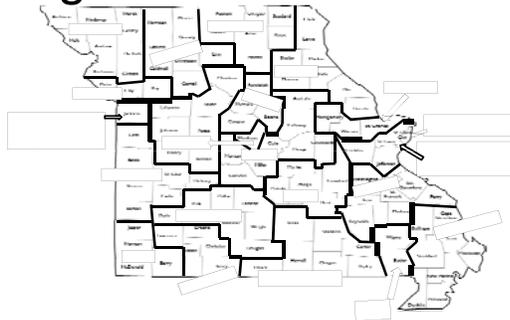
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# Regional Presence



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Slide 14

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**BS6** Suggest adding Centers for Independent Living and Career Centers/Americas Job Centers

Simmons, Brenda, 4/6/2015

# Last Month

- We were in 406 school districts
- We served over 3,477 students in both large and small group forums.

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# Questions ...



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# Contact

- Bob Simpson, Ed.S.
- MU Pre-employment Transition Services
- Hook Center for Ed. Renewal
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