

PIPELine to Career Success for Students with Disabilities

A Collaborative Implementation of Research-Based Strategies through Career Pathways

WHO:

Partners include the: Delaware Department of Education, Delaware Department of Labor, Delaware Health and Social Services, National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity, National Technical Assistance Center on Transition, and Tilson and Diaz Solutions, Inc., as well as school system staff, parents, students, and employers.

WHAT, WHEN, AND WHERE:

A proven, multi-year professional development and technical assistance program model will bring diverse district-based teams together to research, analyze, and determine participation and performance gap root causes for students with disabilities in career pathways. These teams, consisting of district and school staff, as well as vocational rehabilitation counselors and staff from partnering organizations, will analyze options, align strategies, implement solutions, and evaluate outcomes through statewide peer-to-peer collaboration and evaluation.



WHY:

The U.S. Department of Labor (2017) found that compared to 65.3% of individuals without disabilities, only 17.9% of individuals with disabilities were employed. The U.S. Department of Education (2010) found that the employment rate among youth with disabilities aged 17 to 21 was 57% compared to 66% for their peers without disabilities. Statistical analysis further verifies a marked difference in the employment prospects of youth with disabilities.

PIPELINE OBJECTIVES:

Increase the number of students with disabilities who:

1. Enroll in CTE career pathways;
2. Participate in related work-based learning experiences in authentic employment settings;
3. Earn college and career credentials in CTE career pathways;
4. Graduate from high school as a CTE career pathway completer;
5. Continue their education and training beyond high school; and
6. Enter in-demand employment.