

#### PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI--COLUMBIA

# Why Pre-ETS

Transition is a joint responsibility of vocational rehabilitation agencies and school districts.

#### Pre-ETS are designed to:

- improve the transition of students with disabilities from school to postsecondary education or to an employment outcome,
- increase opportunities for students with disabilities to practice and improve workplace readiness skills, through work-based learning experiences in a competitive, integrated work setting and
- increase opportunities for students with disabilities to explore post-secondary training options, leading to more industry-recognized credentials, and meaningful post-secondary employment.

## Pre-Employment Transition Services

represent the earliest set of services available for students who are potentially eligible for VR services,

are short-term in nature,

are designed to help students identify career interests, are provided to all who meet the definition of a student with a disability who may need such services.



University of Missouri Pre-Employment Transition Services

#### **Pre-ETS Overview**

- Job Exploration Counseling
- Work Readiness Training
- Work-based Learning Experiences
- Counseling on Enrollment in Comprehensive Transition and Other Postsecondary Training Programs
- Self-advocacy to Include Peer Mentoring



Requires vocational rehabilitation agencies to set aside 15% of their overall budget for pre-employment transition services.



# Who Can Receive Pre-ETS

# Pre-employment transition services eligibility:

- eligible or potentially eligible for VR services
- 16 21 years of age (or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team)
- currently enrolled in secondary school

### Our Coverage Area

PreETS Specialist assigned to every public school in the state.



844-901-7387

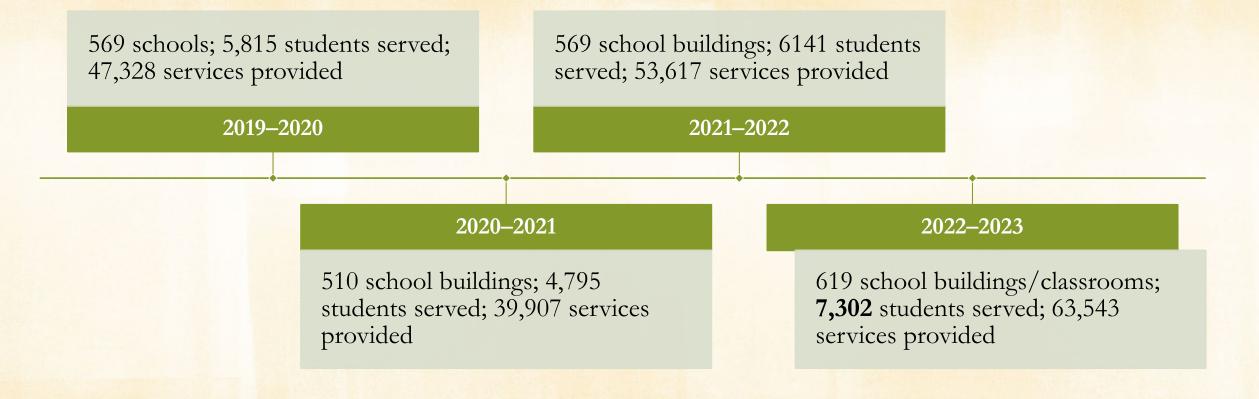




#### Our Staff

- Pre-ETS Specialists are certified teachers (or have a substitute teaching certification)
  - 55 Pre-ETS Specialist positions within the program
  - 4 Pre-ETS Specialist support positions
    - 1 Certified Benefits Planner
    - 1 Specialist assigned to Deaf/Hard of Hearing students
    - 8 Specialists serving Schools for the Severely Disabled

#### University of Missouri Pre-Employment Transition Services Pre-ETS Data by School Year





### Our Partners

- Students with Disabilities
  - IEP
  - 504
  - Known disability
- Local School Districts
- Local Employers
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Local Job Centers

- Centers for Independent Living
- Training programs
- Job Corps
- Colleges and Universities
- Parents and Families
- Other support agencies



# **5 Areas of Support**

1. Job Exploration	2. Work-Based Learning	3. Post- Secondary Counseling	4. Workplace Readiness Training	5. Self- Advocacy
Missouri Connections	Facilitate job shadowing days	Connect students and families with disability services at post-secondary institutions.	Soft Skills Instruction	Instruct students in self-determination and self-advocacy.
Assist students w/ backwards planning to achieve their realistic post-secondary goals	Assist w/scheduling field trips to Career Centers	Research degree or credential requirements for jobs within students' interests	Practice Applications & Mock Interviews	Work with students on disability disclosure and requesting accommodations
Job Market Research	Supplement and coordinate with existing work-based learning programs	Research post- secondary education programs that lead to student's career choice	Provide individualized workplace readiness guidance and counseling	Instruction in student-led IEP/504 meetings



# **Job Exploration**

- What jobs fit my interests, abilities, and aptitudes?
  - Interest inventories, job information sites
- What jobs are available where I want to live?
  - Labor market research, research local job descriptions and postings
- What steps do I need to take to obtain a particular job?
  - Explore training/education/experience needed for chosen career path



## **Workplace Readiness**

- What are work readiness skills I need to be successful in employment?
  - Soft skill instruction/training
- What is the process of obtaining successful employment?
  - Practice applications, Mock Interviews, Resumes
- What is my transportation plan?
  - Practice permit tests, practicing public transportation
- What skills do I need to live independently?
  - Money management, hygiene, community involvement



# Self-Advocacy

- How do I request accommodations at a workplace or postsecondary setting?
  - Self-awareness, IEP processes, IDEA v 504
- How/when should I disclose my disability at a job or post-secondary setting?
- How can I make decisions for myself?
  - Goal setting, assertiveness, decision making



# **Post-Secondary Counseling**

- What are my options for post-secondary training, and what steps do I need to take to get there?
  - Explore programs, FAFSA, A+, VR, 504 v IDEA
- What services will I qualify for in college?
  - Access office connections

- What does college look like?
  - College visits/tours, instruction in college structures



# **Work Based Learning**

- How can I experience both hard and soft skills needed for a particular job?
  - Job Shadows, School-based experiences, task boxes, informational interviews



# How does a Pre-ETS Specialist provide services in Missouri schools?

- Teachers/Guidance identify students; Parent/Guardian sign Pre-ETS release form
- Meet with students individually/small groups on monthly schedule, may also conduct whole class lessons
- PreETS activities are individualized for school/student needs; districts vary in size, transition resources and students have diverse needs
- Assess student area of need (informal), develop plan for instruction in conjunction with teachers
- Communicate with teachers on activities in order to collaborate and work cohesively, feedback for IEP
- Facilitate visits to colleges and post high school training, job sites, job shadows (can not pay for/provide travel).
- May attend IEP meetings as needed, refer to VR Senior year





## Referral-Connection with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

- MU Pre-ETS and school personnel work together to refer students to Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Referral to VR typically occurs during student's Senior/exit year of high school
- VR is an <u>eligibility-based</u> agency-students/parents complete application and VRC obtains supporting documentation of the disability
- With an open case, VRC can continue to <u>collaborate with school personnel</u>, provide <u>transition services</u> and help student move towards <u>post secondary services</u>

#### VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER...

Pre-ETS and VR work closely with the Special Services Teachers and Guidance Counselors at high schools throughout the state. This is a full TEAM effort! It requires communication, collaboration, and everyone having a <u>common goal</u> of helping our students have a **positive experience where they receive supports to help them achieve positive post-secondary outcomes!** 

#### Contact Us

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