

Solving the Puzzle of Connecting with Agencies to Support Youth with Disabilities

These are the primary agencies that provide support to youth with disabilities who set the goal for employment

Education

❖ K-12 School District

Director of Special Education

*Coordinator of WorkAbility or Transition Partnership Programs
CA Promise Programs

School Sites

Comprehensive high schools
Alternative Ed. Centers
Continuation Schools

Career-Technical Adult Education
Charter Schools
Private Schools

Contacts:

Special Education Dept. Chair
Administrators
Counselors

Other Education Agencies
County Offices
SELPA Directors

Colleges/ Universities

Director of Disability Student Services and Programs

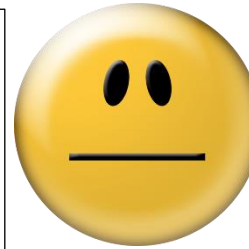
Adult Education

Career Technical Education

❖ America's Job Center

Focus on Employment

Offer job training, education and employment services.
Employment support for out of school youth.
Services include tutoring, alternative secondary school offerings, paid and unpaid work experiences, occupational training, leadership development, support services.



❖ Pre-Employment Transition Services

Job Exploration Counseling
Work-based learning experiences
Counseling on postsecondary education
Workplace Readiness training
Instruction in self-advocacy (and person-centered planning)

❖ Department of Rehabilitation

Contact administrator of local/regional office

Secondary schools may have contracts with DOR, such as the Transition Partnership Program.

Community Colleges

College2Career

WorkAbility II, III, IV

Independent Living Centers

Private, non-profit corporation
Provides free support in the following areas:

Traumatic brain injury program,
provider referrals,
Housing, information & referral,
Rental housing,
Assistive technology,
Durable medical equipment, senior vision services, accessibility,
Independent living skills training,
peer advising and advocacy.

Regional Center

Provides case management services for youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Contact Local / Regional Regional Center

Ask for Case manager

Regional Center provides an array of services through vendors

New: Regional Centers may fund internship opportunities.

There are a variety of other services in the community: Health, Probation, Mental Health, Social Services, Transportation

Remember, **confidentiality laws** require youth to give permission to make referrals, access records

Youth make the choice to disclose a disability.

60% of youth with hidden disabilities do not perceive themselves with a disability when they leave high school.

Suggestion: Become a member of the local transition advisory group or transition partnership.

If youth **are in school**, accept an invitation to join an IEP team meeting.

Recruit youth through special education department at the school site.

Many youth with disabilities participate in alternative education programs, including continuation schools

Students receive instruction in general education classes.