

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

School Sites

Comprehensive high schools

Alternative Ed. Centers

Continuation Schools

Adult Education Programs

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

Campus Support for All Students

Students Success classes

Labs and Tutorials

Student study groups

Adult Education

Career Technical Education

CA Joint Special Populations

Committee www.jspac.org

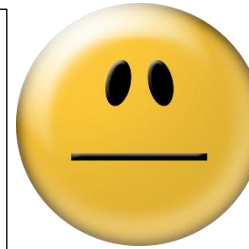
❖ America's Job Center

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

Have youth or parent initiate contact to activate file, or request a service

Regional Center provides an array of services

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.