

BACKGROUND



Pre-Employment Service

One of our newer services, Employment Transition Services (ETS) is a community-based, occupational service that is time limited **up to 3 years**. This pre-employment service enables you to overcome barriers to accessing, maintaining, or re-engaging with employment. ETS focuses on activities that lead to competitive employment including career discovery, career exploration, skill development, and self-advocacy.



Activities should occur in inclusive settings and may include unpaid career exploration, financial management, networking, building skills, and health and fitness activities that lead to better employment outcomes.

DDS Qualified Providers

Qualified providers are essential to accomplish our goal of delivering quality services.

SEARCH FOR PROVIDERS THAT OFFER ETS:
[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE DDS QUALIFIED PROVIDER LIST](#)

Questions?

[DDS Employment and Day Services](#)



MORE INFORMATION

Transportation



Service offered to enable you to get to your place of employment or community-based day supports. This may include agency provided transportation, pre-purchased bus tickets / paratransit bus passes, or private transportation. Payment per mile is made for a maximum of one round trip daily. Wheelchair accessible transportation is paid at a higher rate only if the individual requires the use of a wheelchair accessible vehicle.



Portability

Portability means that you have control over your supports and the money used to pay for the services you receive. The portability process may be used when you are not satisfied with the services you receive from your current public or private provider, or when you need to change who provides your services for some reason.



State of Connecticut
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Developmental Services



EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES (ETS)



Do you need more time to work on your pre-employment skills before heading out to find a job? If so, Employment Transition Services may be a good fit for you. Employment Transition Services (ETS) is a time limited, community-based, vocational service with a focus on:

- ❖ **CAREER DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION**
- ❖ **SKILL DEVELOPMENT**
- ❖ **SELF-ADVOCACY**

IMPORTANT: DDS services are voluntary unlike the school years that are mandated by law. Services and supports available through DDS are neither mandated nor entitlements, and therefore, subject to appropriations from the state legislature every year.

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CAREER EXPLORATION



Experiences and Activities

Employment Transition Services are centered around the experiences you will receive through trialing or trying out different work positions and jobs.



Possible activities:

- Tours of companies
- Job shadowing
- Informational interviews
- Internships and volunteer opportunities
- Community participation
- Health and fitness



Where does ETS occur?

- Community locations; libraries, gyms, banks, and more
- Employment sites and businesses
- Job Centers and Workforce Centers
- Adult Education sites / Post-Secondary Schools
- Community Centers



SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Gain and improve skills



As a potential job seeker, you may need time to work on skill development in different areas. For example, while in ETS, you may learn about managing your finances and banking. These skills are important because at some point soon you will be earning money!



You will also participate in skill building classes with a focus on job-seeking strategies, writing job applications, and preparing a resume. You may take part in community-based networking activities, meet with employers and their human resources staff to practice interviewing, and use workforce centers and libraries to search for jobs. And, you may have opportunities to attend technical and community college educational activities.



Considerations when choosing an ETS Provider:

- Average amount of hours per day in the community participating in work-related skills
- Sites utilized for job shadowing, business tours, and career exploration
- Staff ratio during community work activities



SELF-ADVOCACY



Your Vision

While in ETS you will learn how to identify and create meaningful opportunities to fully participate as a valued member of your community. Some areas to explore include:

- Career preferences - identify places where you can use your personal strengths, talents, and passions.
- Decision-making – make informed choices and take responsibility for your life and experience the dignity of risk.
- Finances – learn how earning money can support personal choices.
- Know your rights and responsibilities and pursue opportunities to live the life you choose.

Check out the DDS Advocates' Corner for more information about self-advocacy:

[Advocates' Corner](#)

Person-Centered Planning



Charting the LifeCourse framework was created by families to help you develop a vision of a good life, think about what you need to know and do, identify how to find supports, and discover what it takes to live the life you want to live. To get started, visit:

[LifeCourse Main](#)