**Alaska Transition Pathway to Adulthood & Employment**

The Outcome goal is employment!

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| Age 12 to Age 13 | Age 14 Age 15 Age 16 | Age 17 Age 18 Age 19 |
| * **Develop strong family expectations concerning meaningful work and self-sufficiency** | * **Paid employment can begin as early as 14 in Alaska; look for paid work opportunities** | * **Obtain real jobs in the community for real pay (minimum wage or above/20 hours+ a week)** |
| * Learn about work and benefits (SSI, APA, Medicaid) | * Begin gathering together your transition IEP ~~meetings~~ team: Family or guardian, Friends, DVR, providers, juvenile justice(if applicable), school counselor or trainsition specialist, teachers, disability liaison from technical school or university… | * IEP Team includes: Student, Parent or guardian, Community Service Providers, DVR, |
| * Begin career exploration at home and at school | * Begin simple informational interviews and employment exploration at home and in the classroom. Start the discussion about career goals and work opprotunities. | * Job Coaches work with students on “Soft Skills” (social skills, communication, timeliness, hygiene etc.) before and at the worksite |
| * Begin looking at where the student’s best fit is based on likes, dislikes, strengths and weaknesses | * ~~Begin~~Develop IEP goals around: social skills, employment, & independence * Transition IEP content required at 16 | * Continue to utilize PETS through DVR and decide if additional DVR supports may be useful * As a DVR client, a student can pursue State of Alaska jobs through the State of Alaska DVR Provisional Hire Program |
| * It starts with allowance: begin budgeting and learning about basic financial (money) management | * Career exploration through job shadowing, intern, or volunteerexperiences | * Look into developing an employment portfolio/vocational profile with DVR and complete discovery and self-discovery |
| * Look at applying for a Developmental Disability eligibility determination with the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services | * If Developmental Disability eligibility was not attain previously, look at applying again as two new categories are considered now: 1) Capacity for Independent Living, 2) Economic Self-Sufficiency | Look at “Job-Related” routines:   * Transportation * Getting ready for work * Lunches * Getting to work on time |
| * Begin overview and basic preparation for end-of-school testing (no test=no diploma) Begin discussion about which college or career ready assessment to consider. Your district pays for one fo these tests and it is required for graduation.; including which test best fits the student (Work Keys, ACT, or SAT) | * Explore career and technical school options list schools in AK? | * Look at work accommodations and adaptive equipment which may be needed (DVR can be a great resource) |
| * Begin looking at post-secondary programs; college, technical school, | * Apply for and begin Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS)link; contact the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) for future services | * Take a Discovery Class (if available) |
| * Peer Power: become your own best advocate; learn about self-determination and self-advocacy as well as peer support | * Learn to fill out job applications (the Alaska Job Center Network is a great local resource) | * \*Possible Paid Work Trials * \* Short-term volunteer positions (if used, very specific/task learning goals) * \* School-based work experiences (short-term/training oriented) |
| * Consider opening an ABLE account (similar to 529 college saving account but specific for individuals with disabilities and will not impact benefits up to $100,000) | * Parents can take Alaska Employment Services trainings to learn more about: work incentives and benefits, financial literacy, and customized employment | * Take college or career assessment to graduate with a diploma - Work Keys, SAT, or ACT (Junior Year) |
|  | * Alaska Job Center resources can provide resources on how to look for jobs, fill out applications, in addition to learning interview skills and how to write a resume. | * Consider Project Search for a student’s last year in high school – 4 Alaska Programs (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Mat-Su, & Kenai) * *The outcome goal is employment!* |

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| Age 20 Age 21 Age 22 Age 23 Age 24 |
| * **The Goal: Employment in the community for minimum wage or above for 20 hours or more a week** |
| * Consider Project Search for a student’s last year in high school – 4 Alaska Programs (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Mat-Su, & Kenai) * *The outcome goal is employment!* |
| * Consider the Tapestry (Anchorage) Post-Secondary Program * Take college classes at UAA or an online program ~~and work towards employment~~ * Look for scholarships and grants |
| * Continue~~d~~ job exploration (if needed) to become employed * Try our jobs as a volunteer or look for inern or apprentice positions |
| * Consider other post-secondary programs inclucing technical school and other training~~and Pell Grants~~ |
| * Continue to utilize DVR and Alaska Job Center resources ~~as needed~~ |
| * ~~Determine if there is a need~~ Plan for long term supports, if needed (such as services from the Divisions of Senior and Disabilities Services and Behavioral Health) * Make a plan for housing and transportation |
| * Make sure that the youth is connected to peer support; consider becoming active in Peer Power Alaska (statewide self-advocacy organization) |