Employment Development

Menu of Services

Individual Services (statewide)

Career Exploration – Provides one-on-one career guidance for individuals struggling with making a career choice or determining transferrable skills that can be used in a new role. Can provide career interest testing to assist with goals. This service is most appropriate for college- or career-bound consumers, rather than those who would need supported employment/discovery process.

Transitional Support – Addresses specific issue/issues (such as hygiene, assertiveness, holding appropriate conversations, interacting with co-workers/supervisors, etc.) before pursuit of employment.

Job Readiness – Provides assistance with job applications, preparing for behavioral assessments, building resumes, interviewing skills, job searches, understanding professionalism, etc.

Resume-Building – Assists with creating or editing resumes of various formats to increase marketability.

Groups

Connections – Program for teens and young adults that enhances socials skills and confidence for gaining and maintaining employment. The curriculum combines training sessions and outings in the community. Consumers who are appropriate for this program have basic reading and writing skills and can function within a group setting without behavior issues. The program runs from August to May and meets twice monthly in the evenings.

Locations: Central Alabama (Birmingham), the Montgomery area, the Wiregrass (Enterprise), and north Alabama (Decatur)

CREST (Creating Reliable Employee Strengths & Traits) – One month, eight-session job readiness program focusing on soft skills needed for successful employment.

Location: Available statewide when enough referrals are made to have a group.

E3 workshops – Workshop series that rotates topic areas such as time management, reading and writing skills, career exploration, and note- and test-taking.

Location: ADRS Lakeshore in Birmingham

College Prep – Three- or five-day program emphasizing skills needed for college success, including study skills, self-advocacy, technology, and career information.

Locations: Summer – Birmingham (UAB and Jefferson State Community College), Tuscaloosa (Shelton State Community College), Blount/Cullman County (Wallace State Community College-Hanceville), Wiregrass area (Wallace Community College-Dothan). Winter break – ADRS Lakeshore
Career Prep – Nine-day program that prepares high-school students for choosing careers and finding successful employment after graduation. The curriculum includes classroom activities to increase job readiness and tours of community colleges and local businesses to help participants make more informed career choices.
Location: Shelby County

Money Works – Four-session workshop to develop money management skills with topics including habits with using money, understanding wants vs. needs, credit, and budgeting.
Location: Available statewide when enough referrals are made to have a group.

School Groups

Student Employment Training (SET) – Three-part workshop to improve job readiness and social skills in high school students with disabilities.
Location: Statewide

Transition Workshop - Workshop to inform high school students of factors involved in transitioning out of high school. The focus is on post-secondary training levels, differences between high school and college, employment trends in Alabama, and aspects to consider when choosing a career.
Location: Statewide