



Discovery and Customized Employment Referral Process

The Criterion for Discovery and Customized employment planning is primarily based on student desires and family commitment, not on any preconceived notions about a student's ability to be employed.

Criteria

These six criteria are often the key pieces that support the foundation for successful student Discovery and customized employment-planning outcomes:

- Student has developmental disabilities according to the federal definition.
- Student is a client or eligible for state vocational rehabilitation agency services.
- Student and family are willing to participate in Discovery.
- Student and family have expressed an interest in employment.
- Teacher is willing to assist in the Discovery process.
- Student needs Discovery to achieve employment.*

***The *most important* criteria is that the student needs Discovery in order to achieve employment. This means that typical vocational evaluations, comparative tests, and situational assessments do not reveal the student's employment possibilities.**

Lee County Referral Process

2012-13, Year 1 – Students will be selected by trained Discovery Teacher from Year 1 pilot schools, discussed with trained facilitators, meet above criteria and then referred upon receipt of family commitment.

Year 1 Pilot Project Schools: Ida Baker High School, Island Coast High School and Buckingham Exceptional Student Center

2013-14, Year 2 – Expansion and Training for Lehigh Senior High School, Mariner High School, Riverdale High School and Buckingham Exceptional Student Center

2013-14 – Referrals will be taken from Year 1 & 2 Schools (listed above)

Trained Discovery Teachers to contact Barbara Williams, ESE Dept. to discuss and submit student name. Student selection criteria will be reviewed, parent contacted for commitment and referral paperwork will be sent to Teacher for completion. Facilitator will be designated to start the Discovery Process.

Referral paperwork to include:

- Teacher Referral
 - Student and Family Cover Letters
 - Student and Family Application
-