

**PROJECT 10 TOPICAL BRIEFS** are published on a bi-monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme and also highlights current and upcoming information and events related to secondary transition. This *Topical Brief* is focused on extended transition programs for students aged 18-22.

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## Promising Practices in Transition: Featuring You!



Project 10 invites you to share your promising practices and stories! We would like to hear about the transition-related programs and activities that are provided in your district.

It's easy. Write a summary of your featured program in 300 words or less and send it in. We will feature as many of your submissions as possible in future Project 10 *Topical Briefs* and on our website under [Promising Practices](#). Your stories and ideas may inspire others throughout the state. Be sure to include information on student impact and contact information. Tell us about your wonderful transition programs and activities! Send promising practices information to

## Extended Transition: Exploring Programs for Students Aged 18-22

### Why?

Research indicates that students with disabilities exhibit lower rates of academic achievement, high dropout rates, higher levels of unemployment and underemployment, and a lower degree of social integration than their peers without disabilities (National Center on Secondary Education and Transition, 2004). Students with disabilities need guidance and support to plan, implement and achieve their post-school goals. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, students with disabilities may receive free and appropriate public education (FAPE) services until their 22nd birthday. Although some students may continue to work toward a standard diploma, extended transition programs generally focus on achieving Individual Educational Plan (IEP) transition goals.

### Who?

Extended transition programs and services are designed for students who defer the receipt of their diplomas and have an IEP that prescribes special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services through age 21. Also, students must be enrolled in one of several specific educational programs such as accelerated college credit, industry certification courses that lead to college credit, a collegiate high school, courses necessary for Scholar designation, or structured work-study, internship, or pre-apprenticeship programs.



### What?

Transition services is defined as a coordinated set of activities for a student, designed within an outcome-oriented process, which promotes movement from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational training, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living or community participation. [34 CFR 300.18]

Extended transition services are the transition services offered to students between the ages of 18 and 22.

### How?

There are many types of extended transition programs provided to students with disabilities to help them achieve their post-school goals. The list below features some examples of program types:

- Community-based instruction
- Dual-enrollment programs
- Employability skills training
- Postsecondary transition programs

- School-based enterprises
- School to work programs based on employment experiences
- Self-determination and self-advocacy training
- Social skills training
- Vocational training programs



The National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) has provided evidence-based predictors of positive post-school outcomes. Transition programs that address these areas have the highest likelihood of helping students to reach their desired post-school outcomes. A partial list of the predictors include the following:

- Career awareness
- Community experience
- Family involvement
- Interagency collaboration
- Social skills
- Work study

The complete list of post-school outcome predictors can be found at [http://www.transitionta.org/sites/default/files/Pred\\_Outcomes\\_0.pdf](http://www.transitionta.org/sites/default/files/Pred_Outcomes_0.pdf).

### **Where?**

Extended transition programs exist across school districts in a variety of forms. Some programs extend across the nation and even the globe. Other extended transition programs are innovations designed specifically for a particular location or setting such as a college or university campus, a hospital, or a local business site. The reality is that programs emerge where needs are observed. Some of you may be observing the need for additional extended transition programs in your area. The remainder of this *Topical Brief* will explore existing transition programs that are found throughout our state.

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## **Project SEARCH: Opportunities for New Programs**

Project SEARCH is a one-year high school transition program that prepares students with disabilities for integrated competitive employment. It is based on a partnership that unites local businesses, school districts, the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC), the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) and Project 10 to provide a workforce program centered on internship experiences, job skills and employment skills.

Project SEARCH had its beginning at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC). The program was designed to meet the center's needs for entry level employment and support its diversity initiative. Since then, over 415 programs

across 46 states and six countries have joined the Project SEARCH movement, providing employment preparation and placement for students with disabilities.



There are currently 25 Project SEARCH programs in Florida and the program outcomes are very positive. The average Project SEARCH graduate earns \$9.61 per hour and works an average of 25+ hours per week. In 2015, 16 of the 19 Project SEARCH sites in Florida were recognized for integrated competitive employment outcomes that exceeded 60% and six of those sites achieved 100%.



A unique funding opportunity is available through a partnership between the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) and Project SEARCH/CCHMC. Through this funding, the opportunity to begin new sites is available for the 2017-18 school year. Project SEARCH is particularly interested in expanding to counties

and school districts in geographically diverse areas of the state, and encourages consortium sites, particularly for small and rural counties and school districts. If your district or interagency council/consortium is interested in starting a new Project SEARCH program, complete the [application available here](#) and submit to [susie.rutkowski@cchmc.org](mailto:susie.rutkowski@cchmc.org). Please communicate your intent to apply for funding to Carly Detlefsen, Project 10 Regional Transition Representative and Project SEARCH Statewide Coordinator at [cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu](mailto:cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu).

Launching a successful program in August 2017 requires planning that begins now. The deadline for applications has been extended for a short time, so submit your application as soon as possible.

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## High School High Tech: Supporting Students Ages 14-22

High School High Tech (HSHT) is a program for students with disabilities found in many school districts in Florida. The program is designed for students ages 14-22 and promotes the exploration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers.

HSHT programs report outcomes including a broadened field of community partners for internships and STEM-related skills development for students. According to the Able Trust website, there are currently 42 HSHT programs active in the state of Florida.

The reported goals of the HSHT program are to:

- Increase the high school graduation rate of students with disabilities.
- Increase the enrollment of students with disabilities in postsecondary institutions.

- Improve the participation of students with disabilities in education, vocational, and employment related activities in technology related fields.



In addition to the Able Trust, there are multiple agencies/organizations who partner to support HSHT including Vocational Rehabilitation and Abilities First. For more information about HSHT and program initiation refer to the [Able Trust website](#) or your local HSHT coordinator.

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## Locally Grown: Extended Transition Programs in Florida

There is a wide variety of extended transition programs provided in school districts across the State of Florida. Many schools have HSHT programs and Project SEARCH programs are also on the rise. Project SEARCH programs are happening with different types of community partners including hospitals, health care centers, government settings and hotels. Other types of extended transition programs include community-based work experience programs (CBWE); community-based instruction (CBI); employability skills development; dual-enrollment opportunities; technology-based training; transition courses; as well as self-determination and self-advocacy training.

Just a few of the specific extended transition programs being sponsored in our state are listed below. As mentioned earlier in this brief, we are inviting your district to share information about the programs and activities that are being offered to students with disabilities. So, please tell us about your wonderful work! Remember to include information about student impact. Send your stories to [dphillips5@usfsp.edu](mailto:dphillips5@usfsp.edu).



### Brevard

- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Health Care Setting - Holmes Regional Medical Center**
- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Health Care Setting - Cape Canaveral Hospital**
- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Government Setting - City of Palm Bay**

These one-year programs are designed for students with disabilities who have a goal of employment and are in their last year of high school. Project SEARCH prepares students with disabilities for integrated competitive employment.

### Citrus County

## **CREST Adults Transitioning Successfully (CATS): A Community-Based Vocational Education Program (CBVE) Located on the Citrus Resources for Exceptional Students in Transition (CREST) Campus**

CREST Adults Transitioning Successfully (CATS) is a CBVE for students with disabilities ages 18-21 whose IEPs recommend CBVE and have deferred receipt of their diplomas. Services are provided at the CREST School and in the community with Exceptional Student Education (ESE) teachers, Job Coaches and ESE staff. The CATS staff provide instruction in functional academics and employability skills. Students have the opportunity to enroll in career experience classes where they can participate in off-campus work programs, Volunteering and / or Community Based Instruction Trips.

## **Transition Academy at Withlacoochee Technical College**

In this program, provided at the Withlacoochee Technical College, students have the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program that teaches the skills needed to be successful in a variety of careers. Students spend some time each day in a classroom setting, working on a basic vocational curriculum introducing workplace terminology and positive work maturity skills. The remainder of the student's time is spent on a non-paid community based work site.

## **Flagler County**

### **TRAIL Transition Program**

The TRAIL Transition Program, Transitioning youth with disabilities into Real vocational opportunities through Action planning and Individualized Learning, is an outcome-oriented program whose focus is to assist 18-22 year old students with disabilities find meaningful, age appropriate vocational placements in our community while keeping in mind their unique learning styles and individual needs.

## **Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties**

### **High School/High Tech: Career exploration, work-based learning, youth leadership - Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc.**

High School/High Tech serves high school students, ages 14-22, with all types of disabilities who are pursuing various diploma options and are interested in technology-related careers.

## **Orange County**

- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Health Care Setting - Florida Hospital East, Florida Hospital Winter Park and Florida Hospital Orlando**
- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Resort Setting - Rosen Shingle Creek Resort**
- **Project SEARCH: Career Exploration in a Resort Setting - Hilton Hotel**

These one-year programs are designed for students with disabilities who have a goal of employment and are in their last year of high school. Project SEARCH prepares students with disabilities for integrated competitive employment.



## Santa Rosa County

### Skills for Independence, Transition and Employment (SITE)

SITE is a unique educational opportunity for students with disabilities located at NAS Whiting Field in Milton. The program is the result of a partnership between the

Exceptional Student Education Department, Workforce Education Department and the United States Navy.

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## Winter Regional Institutes Are on the Horizon

The Winter Institutes are quickly approaching. More information will be coming to you after the holidays, but please save the dates on your calendar now.

**Monday, 2/6/17:** Project 10 Region 1 Regional Institute, Northwest Florida, Tury Lewis, [tllewis@mail.usf.edu](mailto:tllewis@mail.usf.edu)

**Tuesday, 2/7/17:** Project 10 Region 2 Regional Institute, Northeast Florida, Carly Detlefsen, [cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu](mailto:cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu)

**Wednesday, 2/8/17:** Project 10 Regions 3 and 4 Regional Institute, Central Florida, Federico Valadez, [fvaladez@usfsp.edu](mailto:fvaladez@usfsp.edu)

**Friday, 2/10/17:** Project 10 Region 5 Regional Institute, South Florida, Lisa Friedman-Chavez, [lfchavez@usfsp.edu](mailto:lfchavez@usfsp.edu)



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## New Florida Postsecondary Education Guide is Available!

The *Florida Postsecondary Education Guide* is a new publication of the Florida Developmental Disability Council (FDDC). The guide provides in-depth descriptions of postsecondary education programs in Florida that serve students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This resource will help students with

intellectual disabilities and their families identify postsecondary programs that are available across the state.

The guide itself and a promotional flyer can be downloaded from the FDDC website.

[Click Here for Link](#)

The guide and the flyer are expected to be posted on the Florida Consortium for Inclusive Higher Education website at <http://ftpsid.info> in the near future.



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## Transition Resources

### Community-Based Instruction (Effective Practices Matrix)

[http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/effectivepractices/EP\\_Matrix\\_print\\_12\\_4\\_2015.pdf](http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/effectivepractices/EP_Matrix_print_12_4_2015.pdf)

This resource is a collection of evidence-based, research-based and promising practices.

### Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Transition Youth Services

<http://rehabworks.org/stw.shtml>

VR Transition Youth Services help students with disabilities train for a job, continue their education, or find a job after high school. Under this program, every youth will have the opportunity to participate in sponsored career counseling, work readiness training, and fully integrated work experiences in the community.

### Employment Transition Plan Template and Instruction

<http://project10.info/DetailPage.php?>

[MainPageID=80PageCategory=Effective%20Practices%20in%20Transition&PageSubCategory=Student-Focused%20Planning](http://project10.info/DetailPage.php?MainPageID=80PageCategory=Effective%20Practices%20in%20Transition&PageSubCategory=Student-Focused%20Planning) (Template)

<http://project10.info/files/EmploymentPlanInstructions.pdf> (Instructions)

Project 10 developed an Employment Transition Plan Template and Employment Transition Plan Instructions with the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) to guide school district staff in the completion of the employment transition plan, which is required by section 1003.4282(11)(2)(a-d). The employment plan template and instructions may



also be found on the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) BEESS Secondary Transition website at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/secondary-transition.stml>

## **Florida Department of Education/Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)**

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese>

BEESS administers programs for students with disabilities and for gifted students. It also coordinates student services throughout the state and participates in multiple inter-agency efforts designed to strengthen the quality and variety of services available to students with special needs. The links listed below are related to curriculum/programs that provide work based learning activities:

### **Career and Technical Education**

<http://www.fldoe.org/workforce/programs/>

### **Program Options for Students with Disabilities: What Students and Families Need to Know**

[http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7690/urlt/0070074-311350\\_fam-know.pdf](http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7690/urlt/0070074-311350_fam-know.pdf)

### **Simply Careers! Helping Students with Disabilities Effectively Plan Their Futures through Comprehensive Career Development**

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-1415/SIMPLYatt.pdf>

### **Technical Assistance Paper 12698: Non-Paid Community-Based Vocational Education (CBVE)**

<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7571/urlt/0086208-y2006-2.pdf>

### **MyCareerShines**

[www.FloridaShines.org](http://www.FloridaShines.org)

This new online planning tool is called MyCareerShines and will be implemented in phases beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. With MyCareerShines, Floridians will be able to explore careers, identify personal preferences for future employment, and learn about the educational requirements for specific professions.

### **Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)**

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

OOH provides information regarding hundreds of jobs such as the training and education needed, earnings, expected job prospects, what workers do on the job, and working conditions. It also provides job searching tips and information regarding the job market in each state. The OOH is updated every two years.

### **Self-Advocacy and Self-Determination**

<http://www.project10.info/DetailPage.php?MainPageID=185PageCategory=EffectivePracticesinTransiton&PageSubCategory=StudentDevelopment>

Project 10 webpage containing additional resources related to self-advocacy and self-determination.

### **Self-Advocacy Strategy**

[http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/PD\\_SAS.pdf](http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/PD_SAS.pdf)

This Research to Practice Lesson Plan Starter from the National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC) focuses on teaching students the "I PLAN" strategy for IEP participation. The five steps of the plan are presented using the mnemonic "I PLAN" to help cue students to remember the steps for the strategy.

### **Transition Planning**

<http://www.transitionta.org/TransitionPlanning.html>

This National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) webpage provides information and guidance on transition planning as well as a links to different planning tools.

### **Using Community-Based Instruction (CBI) to Teach Community Integration Skills**

[http://www.transitionta.org/system/files/resources/PD\\_CBI\\_CommunityIntegration.pdf](http://www.transitionta.org/system/files/resources/PD_CBI_CommunityIntegration.pdf)

This resource includes a description of the level of evidence supporting the promising practice of using CBI to teach community integration skills. Two lesson plans are included.

### **Using Community-Based Instruction to Teach Employment Skills**

[http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/PD\\_CBI\\_Employment.pdf](http://transitionta.org/sites/default/files/PD_CBI_Employment.pdf)

This resource includes a description of the level of evidence supporting the promising practice of using CBI to teach employment skills. One lesson plan is included.

### **Whose Future is it Anyway?**

[http://www.ou.edu/content/education/centers-and-partnerships/\\_zarow/transition-education-materials/whos-future-is-it-anyway.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/education/centers-and-partnerships/_zarow/transition-education-materials/whos-future-is-it-anyway.html)

This is a student-directed transition planning curriculum that helps students to become more involved in the IEP planning process.

### **7980040 Preparation for Entrepreneurship/Self-Employment Scope and Sequence**

<http://www.project10.info/files/7980040.Self-EmploymentEntrepreneurship.pdf>

The purpose of this scope and sequence is to support teachers implementing Preparation for Entrepreneurship/Self-Employment (Course Number 7980040), which includes activities and resources.

### **7980110 High School Career Preparation Scope and Sequence**

[Click Here for Link](#)

The purpose of this scope and sequence is to support teachers implementing High School Career Preparation (Course Number 7980110), which includes activities and resources.

### **7980120 High School Career Experiences Scope and Sequence**

[Click Here for Link](#)

The purpose of this scope and sequence is to support teachers implementing High School Career Experience (Course Number 7980120), which includes activities and resources.

### **7980130 High School Career Placement Scope and Sequence**

[Click Here for Link](#)

The purpose of this scope and sequence is to support teachers implementing

High School Career Placement (Course Number 7980130), which includes activities and resources.

## **7980150 Supported Competitive Employment Scope and Sequence**

[Click Here for Link](#)

The purpose of this scope and sequence is to support teachers implementing Supported Competitive Employment (Course Number 7980150), which includes activities and resources.

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **Teaching Writing to Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities: Writing for Communication**

**Thursday, December 8, 2016 from 8:00am to 3:30pm (Ft. Lauderdale)**

[Click Here for Link](#)

The Access Project has offered two (2) regional trainings with Dr. Janet Sturm and Dr. Stephanie Spadorcia. Through their studies in the teaching and learning of expressive writing, participants will hone their abilities to teach writing to students with significant cognitive disabilities. One (1) more training remains available to those in the South Florida region.

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## **Upcoming Webinars**

### **Online Quality Individual Educational Plan (QIEP) Document Training and Adobe® Tools to Access Online Documents Training-Rescheduled Wednesday, November 30, 2016 @ 9:00 am and 10:00am**

[Click Here for Link](#) (QIEP Manual Training- 9:00am)

[Click Here for Link](#) (Adobe Reader Tools- 10:00am)

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Administration Project has developed a one-hour overview on how to access and utilize the new online QIEP manual, followed by an additional professional development opportunity on how to use Adobe® tools to access online documents and utilize built-in accommodations. The webinars will be offered successively on November 30, 2016 and will be conducted via Adobe® Connect™. The webinar will be recorded for those who are unable to attend.

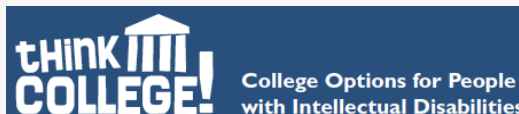


### **Seeing, Not Looking: How My Daughter Got the Opportunity of a Lifetime and What She Did With It**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016 @ 3:00pm**

[Click Here for Link](#)

This webinar features how a father's expectations for his daughter's postsecondary experience went far



beyond what he imagined.

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### **Join Our Mailing List**



#### **About Project 10 Topical Briefs:**

Project 10 Topical Briefs provide short informational summaries and resource links related to secondary transition.

**Have a question? Want to find or recommend a resource? Have some great news to share?**

Send us an email at  
[project10@stpete.usf.edu](mailto:project10@stpete.usf.edu)

For back issues of Project 10 Topical Briefs, visit the newsletter page on the Project 10 website at <http://www.project10.info/Newsletter.php>.

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#### **Project 10: Transition Education Network**

Assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes.

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#### **Project 10: Transition Education Network University of South Florida St. Petersburg**

Questions or comments?  
Email us at  
[project10@stpete.usf.edu](mailto:project10@stpete.usf.edu)  
[www.Project10.info](http://www.Project10.info)

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