ACTIVITY PLAN

Path: I Want to Continue My Education

Course: What Community Activities Can Help Me Continue My Education?

Lesson: Networking to Continue My Education

Student Transition TENNESSEE

Learning Target: At the end of this activity, students will be able to explain how networking can help them learn about college or training program options.

Work-Based Learning: Counseling on Postsecondary Education and Workplace Readiness Training

Time Recommended: 60 Minutes

TransitionTN Additional Resources for Instructors

Campus Tour Scavenger Hunt for Students

Class Shadow Post-Interview and Reflection

College Fairs

Questions to Ask the Office of Disability Services

Networking 101

Preparing Students for a Class Shadow Experience

Program Exploration Recording Form

Student Guide for Asking Questions During A College Tour

Other Resources for Instructions

5 Tactics to Help Students Embrace Networking and Relationship Building

8 Tips to Help College Students Start Networking

10 Tips for Effective Networking

IRIS Center – Creating a Network of Supports

Networking Basics

Preparing Students for Success

Support Networks and How Students with Disabilities Can Benefit from Them

Materials and Preparation

- Computers or tablets if completing activity with technology
- Printed resources as needed (fact sheet, activity cards, recording form, etc.)

Providing Accommodations

- Arrange accommodations for students who have fine motor skill needs such as using a computer mouse.
  - ° For example, instead of operating a computer mouse, have students point to the screen while someone else clicks the options
- Use a peer to help guide students through the activities
- Read the content out loud to the students
- Allow students to use audio recordings
- Provide a scribe or someone to type the answers for the student as they verbally answer the questions
- Download and print the form for students who do not have access to a computer
- If applicable, meet with the teacher to ensure any new vocabulary is entered into the students' Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices

Vocabulary Review

- Review the suggested vocabulary using the online vocabulary review or print out course vocabulary flashcards.

Think About

- Who can you add to your personal network that can help you continue your education?
- Who can you add to your professional network that can help you continue your education?
- What information can you learn about a college or training program by networking?
- What is a networking opportunity you want to attend to learn more about a college or training program?

Play the Game

- Instruct students to play the game found on the Get Involved page
- Students can play the game independently, work in small groups, or play as a class

School-Based Activity

Discuss: Instruct students to read through the fact sheet independently, with a partner, or as a group. After reviewing the fact sheet, use the Think About questions to prompt discussion about how networking can help in finding a job that they are interested in and matches their skills.

Explain: Emphasize that everyone has a network of people. These networks can either be personal or professional. A personal network can help a student connect with people who share similar interests. A professional network can help a student continue their education to reach their career goals. A person's network can support them as they work towards continuing their education. Networking can help a student learn more about a college or training program. It can also help them decide if a college or training program is right for them.

In this activity, students will:
- Download or print the Personal Versus Professional Network Activity Form
- Read each scenario
- Identify if the person in the scenario would be a member of a personal or professional network.

Community-Based Extension

After students have completed the school-based activity, they can begin to identify individuals to add to their network. Students will need to download the Recording Form for this activity. Students will identify three individuals whose careers and experiences with continuing their education they would like to learn more about. The students can reach out to the individual in-person, through email, or a phone call. Students will meet to discuss the individual's experiences in networking. After completing the form, have the student answer the reflection questions and decide if they should add the individuals to their networks.