

**Family Tip Sheet:
What Should I Know About Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)?**

The Basics

The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Pre-Employment Transition Services (or Pre-ETS) program helps students with disabilities prepare for life after high school. Pre-ETS are offered to students between ages 14-21. This program is a partnership between high schools and the VR program. Topics covered in Pre-Employment Transition Services might include:

- Learning about jobs
- Learning about college or training programs
- Getting jobs or internships
- Practicing skills needed for jobs and/or living on their own
- Learning how to speak up for themselves

Myths

Myth #1: My child needs to be a Vocational Rehabilitation customer to participate in Pre-ETS.

Your child does not need to be a VR customer to participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services. As long as your child has a disability, is enrolled in school, and is between the ages of 14-21, they will be eligible for Pre-ETS. You can show proof of disability through an IEP, 504 plan, or doctor's diagnosis.

Myth #2: Parents can't request Pre-ETS.

Anyone can request Pre-ETS. Family members, teachers, students, advocates, or others can contact their VR office to request Pre-ETS. Local school districts will work with VR to find a provider.

Myth #3: Pre-ETS costs money.

All Pre-ETS services are free. Talk to your child's teacher to see how Pre-ETS are offered in their school. If Pre-ETS are not offered in your child's school, contact 833-772-TDHS (8347) or email VR.TransitionServices@tn.gov .

Myth #4: Pre-ETS activities are the same for all students and all schools.

Pre-Employment Transition Services should not be a set package for all students. Not all students will receive all Pre-Employment Transition Services. Some services are provided in group settings. Some will be individualized to students. Talk to your child's teacher and Pre-ETS provider to learn more about how Pre-ETS is offered in your child's school.

Myth#5: My child is in college, so they can't receive Pre-ETS.

For the purposes of Pre-ETS, an individual is still considered to be a student with a disability if they are enrolled in higher education, including Think College inclusive higher education programs if they are not beyond age 21.

What Questions Should I Ask?

- Does my child's school offer Pre-ETS?
- How often does the Pre-ETS provider come to the school?
- What skills are they working on with students?
- Do providers work individually with my child?
- Can the Pre-ETS provider come to my child's IEP meeting?
- How is Pre-ETS different than transition services my child is already receiving?

Need More Information?

Talk to your child's teacher to see if Pre-ETS are offered in their school. If Pre-ETS are not offered in your child's school, contact 833-772-TDHS (8347) or email VR.TransitionServices@tn.gov.

For more information about Vocational Rehabilitation and Pre-ETS. Contact the state VR agency at 1-833-772-TDHS (8347).

Website: <https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/ds/vocational-rehabilitation/transition-services/pre-employment-transition-services.html>

If you need additional information about vocational rehabilitation or have concerns about services provided/not provided, contact the Client Assistance Program:

<https://www.disabilityrightstn.org/gethelp>

1(800) 342-1660