

Kentucky Employment Programs

[Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center](#)

The Perkins Center serves individuals with many types of disabilities that include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorders, traumatic brain injury, intellectual disability, deaf/hard of hearing, and physical disabilities. The Center currently operates several programs and services that enable consumers to achieve their vocational goals. Our website will give an excellent overview of our many programs and services.

[Coalition for Workforce Diversity](#)

The Coalition For Workforce Diversity is an alliance of companies and individuals working together to create employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

[ISAW: Innovative Supports for Autistic Workers](#)

ISAW offers face to face training on autism and employment for all Business Service Teams in Kentucky

[Kentucky Association for Persons in Supported](#)

[Employment \(APSE\)](#)

The Kentucky Association for Persons in Supported Employment promotes the improvement of Supported Employment services for people with disabilities experiencing barriers through education, advocacy, collaboration, policy change, and elimination of barriers, empowerment, and community participation.

[KY Cabinet for Workforce Development](#)

The Department of Workforce Investment is made up of four offices. It is an agency of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet. The agencies in Workforce Investment are the Office for Employment and Training, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Office for the Blind, and Office for Career and Technical Education. The mission of the Department of Workforce Investment is connecting Kentucky to employment, workforce information, education and training.

U.S. Department of Education - Office for Civil Rights

Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

[Kentucky Works](#)

KentuckyWorks is a collaborative effort between the Human Development Institute, the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), the Kentucky Department of Education, the Kentucky Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, KY Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL), Kentucky Protection & Advocacy, KY Community and Technical College System, the Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood (GOEC), Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Kentucky Office of Autism, and the Kentucky Autism Training Center.

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[Office of Vocational Rehabilitation \(Voc Rehab\)](#)

The Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation assists Kentuckians with disabilities to achieve suitable employment and independence. We recognize and respect the contribution of all individuals as a necessary and vital part of a productive society. We hope to assist Kentuckians with disabilities to achieve suitable employment and independence. We value the rights, merit and dignity of all persons with disabilities and the opportunity to pursue employment as an important aspect of a full and meaningful life. We value all staff, their individual talents, unique abilities and contributions to the agency's mission. And we value collaborative efforts and partnerships that support the agency's mission.

[SETP: Supported Employment Training Project -](#)

University of Kentucky Human Development Institute

Supported employment is designed to promote personalized employment opportunities for people with disabilities when they need support to:

- Discover personal interests and contributions,
- Find or negotiate a job that fits things people like to do and do well,
- Become established as valued employees; and
- Pursue job advancements.

National Employment Programs and Information

[Autism Speaks](#)

The nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization, has recently published several valuable resources that assist families on the journey from adolescence to adulthood. The Transition Tool Kit and the Transition Information Timeline in Kentucky can be used by families and providers to guide the transition to adulthood.

[Transition Tool Kit](#)

[Autism Speaks Transition Information Timeline in Kentucky \[PDF\]](#)

[Bridges Transition Workshops](#)

The Bridges to the Future Transitional Care Program offers a variety of educational workshops designed to prepare teens ages 16 to 18 for their upcoming transition from pediatric to adult care. The Bridges to the Future Transitional Care program is funded in part by a grant through the Kentucky Integrated Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and the Commission for Children with Special Healthcare Needs (CCSHCN).

Workshop topics include the following:

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- Nutrition
- Fitness, Sports, Recreation
- Medication management
- Social services
- Knowing your rights
- Finding adult services, Talking with health care providers
- Relationships and Safe Sex

[The Job Accommodation Network](#)

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace. JAN's trusted consultants offer one-on-one guidance on workplace accommodations, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and related legislation, and self-employment and entrepreneurship options for people with disabilities. Assistance is available both over the phone and online. Those who can benefit from JAN's services include private employers of all sizes, government agencies, employee representatives, and service providers, as well as people with disabilities and their families. (Search: autism, Asperger, ASD fact sheet)

[Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Work](#)

[Supports and Job Retention \(Virginia Commonwealth](#)

[University\)](#)

Established in 1983, VCU-RRTC (Virginia Commonwealth University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Workplace Supports and Job Retention) has grown into one of the largest Research and Training Centers in the United States. We serve as a Center of national excellence, providing resources for professionals, individuals with disabilities, and their representatives. For over 26 years, we have been at the forefront of the supported employment and workplace supports movements. Our team of nationally and internationally renowned researchers is committed to developing and advancing evidence-based practices to increase the hiring and retention for individuals with disabilities.

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[A Guide for Transition to Adulthood by the](#)

[Organization for Autism Research \[PDF\]](#)

This new Guide, *Life Journey Through Autism: A Guide for Transition to Adulthood*, is designed to give parents, teachers, and other education professionals an introduction to the transition to adulthood process. Each of these topics contained herein could merit an entire volume of its own; therefore, this Guide is intended to serve as a starting point for parents and educators as they seek to learn more. Further, given the diversity of expression that constitutes the autism spectrum, it is likely that none of the information presented here will be relevant to all young adults on the spectrum (with the possible exception of the overview of laws in support of transition planning); but hopefully, most of it will be relevant to your son, daughter, student, or client. In that way, *A Guide for Transition to Adulthood* might best be understood as an overview of the myriad questions you will need to answer as part of the transition planning process, while recognizing the answers to those questions will be diverse and individualized, as the spectrum itself.