How do I prepare for, or help my child to prepare for, gainful employment or vocation?

In preparing for adult life, develop for yourself, or help your son or daughter to develop, and implement a plan towards a meaningful occupation or activity.

- Consider for yourself, or have conversations with your son or daughter about different occupations and roles.
- What are your, or their, interests and values?
- In order to find out what types of future occupations are possible, consult with teachers and other professionals about you, or your son/daughter’s, capabilities, strengths, and challenges.
- Job preparation skills can include doing chores at home, doing extra chores for money, and doing volunteer work. Find programs and opportunities that teach pre-employment skills: job hunting, resumes, filling out application forms, interview skills, social and communication skills, job shadowing, and work experiences.

RESOURCES

The Resource Centre (a Sinneave Family Foundation initiative) does not endorse or guarantee the exhaustive, complete, accurate or up-to-date nature of information provided and does not assume any risk for the outcome of information or referrals provided.

Alberta Supports
A website that provides information about career planning, education, and jobs.

Phone: 1.877.644.9992
Website for Job Search Resources: alberta.ca/jobs-alberta.aspx
Website for Education and Training: alberta.ca/education-training.aspx

Champions
Champions Career Centre helps individuals with disabilities find and keep a job. Services include assessment, developing goals, resume and interview skills, connecting with employers, and making an informed decision about disclosure.

Phone: 403.265.5374
Address: 650, 839 – 5th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3C8
Email: info@championscareercentre.org
Website: championscareercentre.org
Chrysalis
Chrysalis’ services and programs are developed to meet the needs, abilities, and interests of each individual. They do offer vocational skill development, volunteer placements in the community, supported employment, and social and recreational opportunities. They also have an Active Leisure Centre offering adapted equipment and basic training in health and wellness. Requires PDD funding. Must be part of the day program.

Phone: 403.258.1501
Address: #7, 6020 - 1A Street SW, Calgary, AB T2H 0G3 or 13325 St. Albert Trail, Edmonton, AB T5L 4R3
Email: info@chrysalis.ca
Website: chrysalis.ca/careers/

Columbia College Employment Training Program
Employment Training is an occupational skill training program that provides the opportunity for students to receive academic upgrading relevant to their career choice and then take part in relevant work experience. There are a variety of programs from which students can choose.

Phone: 403.235.9300
Address: 802 Manning Road NE, Calgary, AB T2E 7N8
Email: columbia@columbia.ab.ca
Website: columbia.ab.ca/programs-courses/#employment-training

Do2learn: JobTips
An on-line program that assists teens and adults transitioning to the workplace. It provides learning resources, guided exercises, graphic organizers, role-playing scenario cards, pre-screening tests, video tutorials, and visual prompts to help individuals with any learning style get and keep a job.

Website: do2learn.com/JobTIPS/index.html

Mount Royal University Transitional Vocational Program (TVP)
The TVP helps adults with developmental disabilities learn new skills to successfully enter the workforce. They offer both full time and part time options. Courses include functional literacy and math, computer skills, self-care and Alberta learner’s license test preparation.

Phone: 403.440.6872
Address: 4825 Mt Royal Gate SW, Calgary, AB T3E 6K6
Email: tvp@mtroyal.ca
Website: mtroyal.ca/ProgramsCourses/ContinuingEducation/tvp/index.htm
Prospect
Prospect offers a wide variety of programming, including adult day programs, with a vocational focus. “The Worx” program provides employment search services to individuals with disabilities.

Phone: 403.273.2822
Address: 915 – 33rd Street NE, Calgary, AB T2A 6T2
Email: info@prospectnow.ca
Website: prospectnow.ca

Society for the Treatment of Autism (STA)
Pursuits and Recruits program develops employment and post-secondary preparation skills and work experiences.

Phone: 403.253.2291
Address: 404 94 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0E8
Email: welcherj@sta-ab.com
Website: sta-ab.com/adolescent-and-adult-services/

The Ability Hub Initiatives:

Meticulon
Meticulon assesses and trains individuals with ASD to perform data services, quality assurance, software and website testing, and other IT-related tasks. This program is located at The Ability Hub.

Phone: 403.210.5000
Website: meticulon.com

Spectrum Advantage
This program assists individuals with ASD find and retain a job. It is a 4-month program: the first month consists of job readiness classes; the final three months consist of paid employment. This program is located at The Ability Hub.

Phone: 403.210.5000 ext 2032
Email: sarah@autismcalgary.com
Website: thespectrumadvantage.com

Employment Works
EWC aims to improve the employment readiness and vocational engagement of individuals with ASD, while creating awareness in the employer of the value and competencies that these individuals bring to the workplace and community.

Phone: 403.210.5000
Email: al.bhanji@sinneavefoundation.org
Website: worktopia.ca/employment-works/

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