

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

In preparing for adult life, it is helpful to have a plan on how to obtain meaningful occupation or activity. You can help yourself, or your child, develop that plan by considering the following:

- Consider for yourself, or have conversations with your child, 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 child'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 and submitting 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.

The Ability Hub Initiatives:

The Sinneave Family Foundation – Launch + Skills

Launch + Skills is an individualized, one-to-one skills coaching program that helps individuals aged 15 years and older increase their readiness for, and skill set to maintain, occupation and employment.

Phone: 403.210.5000
Email: info@sinneavefoundation.org
Website: sinneavefoundation.org

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 Canada (EWC)

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 autistic people bring to the workplace and community.

Phone: 1.888.733.7976
Email: info@employment-works.ca
Website: employment-works.ca

Provincial and Community Supports:

Alberta Supports

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

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

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 a variety of career choices and then take part in relevant work experience. Costs associated. Full information available on their website listed below.

Phone: 587.316.1576
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. There are sensory considerations and coping strategies listed with specific examples under the 'Environmental Demands' section. There is a free demo version with limited access and a paid subscription version with additional tools.

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. The program is from September to August with an optional additional year of employment support program available to graduates. Students must be 18 years of age or older on the start date of the program and must be able to take public transit independently. Funding for program fees may be available through AlbertaWorks. Full details available on the listed website below.

Phone: 403.440.6872

Address: 4825 Mt Royal Gate SW, Calgary, AB T3E 6K6

Email: tvpm@mtroyal.ca

Website: mtroyal.ca/tvp/index.htm

Prospect Human Services

Prospect offers a wide variety of programming related to supporting employment readiness, skill building, and searching for, gaining, and maintaining employment for a wide variety of people facing barriers to employment. They offer a PDD-funded employment program and multiple non-PDD programs. Prospect has an Edmonton office and employment services in Rocky View and Wheatland areas. Prospect additionally offers services for employers who want support in connecting with qualified candidates. Full details available on their website.

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 offers multiple programs that aim to develop employment and post-secondary preparation skills and offers work experiences. Costs associated. Contact the Program Coordinator via the contact information listed below for registration and additional details.

Phone: 403.991.7823

Address: 404 94 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0E8

Email: GreigJ@sta-ab.com

Website: sta-ab.com/adolescent-and-adult-services/

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