

Saint John's County School District
Exceptional Student Education Department



SJCSD
Transition Programs
for 18-22-Year-Olds
Application and Guidelines
2024 - 2025

Mission

The St. Johns County transition programs encourage community engagement and peer interaction through transition instructional activities, integrated job training, and activities in an age-appropriate setting while working toward gainful employment and community independence.

Program Goals for Students:

- Increase the level of independence and confidence.
- Become contributing and integral members of their local community.
- Develop skills to obtain competitive employment in their field of choice.
- Engage in age-appropriate interactions with peers and practice social and communication skills across settings.
- Improve self-determination and self-advocacy skills.
- Develop age-appropriate leisure and recreation interests.
- Engage the support of adult service agencies before exiting the program.

Work Experience:

- **Non-paid job training:** Students will receive career exploration and training from school district staff and job site supervisors at various work sites such as, but not limited to, maintenance, clerical, or food service.
- **Job Shadowing Experiences:** Students will be given the opportunity to job shadow in their job interest area.
- **Competitive Employment:** District transition staff and adult agencies will guide the student in obtaining competitive employment after the career experience. Job training will be provided as outlined by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Instruction:

- Students will receive instruction in life skill curriculum areas.
- Instruction takes place in various areas designated for program use within the community. Instructor, Job Trainer, and other district staff, along with job site supervisors, work collaboratively to provide job-training instruction at rotating job sites.

Community Involvement Orientation and Assimilation:

- Students will interact with age-appropriate peers in employment and recreational activities.
- Students and families will be linked with outside agencies.
- Students will participate in Community Based Instruction to access community social and leisure/recreation activities.
- Students will receive support from other School District programs and curriculum staff.

Curriculum Areas Based on Individual Student Needs May Include:

- Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy
- Employability Skills
- Financial Literacy
- Interpersonal Communication and Social Skills
- Orientation and Assimilation into Community Activities
- Computers & Technology
- Career Exploration
- Public Transit System Travel Training
- Essential Life & Daily Living Skills
- Functional Skills

Decisions regarding student promotion, retention and special placement are primarily the responsibility of the individual school's professional staff. District and state regulations place the responsibility for decisions regarding student placement with the principal and the Multi-Tiered System of Support Team or its equivalent. There is no provision for voluntary retention or placement based solely on student or parental preference, F. S. 1008.25.

This page is to be completed by the school-based team.

Has this student had any successful off-campus job training, volunteer, or paid work experience?

Yes No Not Sure

Please list all-volunteer, Community-Based Vocational Education (CBVE) and/or paid work experiences: (grade, site(s), specific tasks).

Please check what applies to the student.

1. How often is this student absent?

- Rarely
- Occasionally
- Frequently

2. Has the student had any discipline referrals or undocumented discipline history in high school?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

3. Please check the student's need for the services of a nurse during the school day.

- None
- As needed
- Weekly
- Daily

4. Does the student have a **Health Care Plan?**

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

5. Has this student required the services of a behavior specialist during the school day at any time during the past three years?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

7. Has the student required the services of the guidance counselor while in high school?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

8. Is the student a resident of St. Johns County?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

9. Does the student have a case to be monitored in Navigate 360 or the Florida Model Intake System?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure



Life Work Transition Programs Requirements

Students with disabilities who have completed the academic requirements for a Standard Diploma and need additional work-related transition skills are eligible to defer receipt of their diploma to participate in a work-study program and apply to our Transition program for students with disabilities. Selected students will participate in a planning meeting and if they choose to continue receiving transition services, will withdraw from their high school and enroll in Life Work (which is an ESE center school.)

Documented successful work experience is preferred but not required. Students who have completed all requirements for a Standard Diploma and have opted to defer receipt of their diploma to participate in a work-study program are eligible to apply. Selected students must comply with all required business policies, such as dress code and rules of conduct. SJCS D provides transportation to Life Work by school bus or via district-assigned vehicle driven by SJCS D staff.

Program Requirements:

- Be between 18-21 (services are provided up to the 22nd birthday).
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct oneself responsibly in social, private, and/or personal settings with limited staff assistance.
- Exhibit socially responsible behavior when unsupervised.
- Have a Transition Individual Education Plan (TIEP), with paid employment as a goal/student desire.
- Have a desire for paid employment in their community.
- Be a client of Vocational Rehabilitation via the Pre-ETS or Traditional pathway.
- Be motivated to work and learn the vocational/academic skills necessary for paid employment.
- Be independent in personal hygiene, toileting, grooming, and dress in the appropriate school or work attire.
- Possess the ability, physically or with adaptive equipment, to feed oneself independently.
- Present a means to independently communicate and communicate name/emergency contact information in a form that is comprehensible to strangers.
- Function independently without one-on-one supervision in all settings, including transportation.
- Demonstrate consistent school attendance and punctuality.
- Be willing to utilize specialized transportation or general education transportation to and from program sites without the support of a bus aide.
- Can cross streets at major intersections safely with limited supervision or assistance.
- Have a state ID and Social Security Card or Work Authorization to obtain employment by the date of enrollment in the program.

Disclaimer

Please note that students must apply and be accepted to participate in any of the SJCS D Transition Programs (Life Work, Project Search, Community Campus). Once the student's application has been reviewed, a team member will contact the family to schedule an IEP meeting. SJCS D Transition Programs (Life Work, Project Search, Community Campus) reserve the right to dismiss any student who is unable to comply with the program requirements. If dismissed from an SJCS D Transition Program an IEP meeting will be held to discuss next steps.



FCTC Dual Enrollment with Life Work Transition Program Support Requirements

Life Work students may participate in Dual or Secondary Enrollment classes at First Coast Technical College (FCTC) with consultative support provided by Life Work staff, pending the application process and acceptance. **Students must apply to FCTC and complete a St. Johns County School District Transition Program Application in order to continue their services upon meeting high school graduation requirements. This is part of the deferral process. The student's high school guidance counselor is responsible for submitting the application to FCTC. Please write "Life Work Student" on the top of the application and include a copy of the application when uploading this application.**

FCTC Dual Enrollment programs:

- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration
- Landscape & Turf Management
- Nursery Management
- Automotive Service Technology
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Systems Technician
- Dental Assisting
- Medical Assisting
- Welding Technology

High School Secondary Programs:

- Horticulture Science and Service
- Culinary Arts
- Early Childhood Education
- Cosmetology
- Facials Specialty
- Nails Specialty

Minimum Requirements for Enrollment:

- Good attendance and discipline record
- 2.0 unweighted GPA (dual enrollment only)
- On track for graduation
- Room in the student's schedule for a minimum of two consecutive periods.
*Please be advised some courses may require additional periods.
- Complete required assessment(s) (dual enrollment only)

Vocational Rehabilitation: Students who plan to attend college may receive additional support through the Adult Services Application pathway, which could assist with the cost of uniforms and textbooks.

Please complete and submit a **Traditional Referral**.

Disclaimer: Please note that applying as a dual enrollment student does not guarantee automatic acceptance or full-time enrollment. FCTC will notify you of your enrollment status in August via email. For more information, please visit FCTC's website.



Project Search Transition Programs Requirements

Project SEARCH is a one-year, fully immersive internship program for students with disabilities who have been determined eligible for services through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and have met all criteria and requirements for entrance into the program. This program is a partnership between SJCSO, The ARC of St. Johns (The VR provider), and the host business site. Students are expected to end deferment upon program completion.

Students may enter Project SEARCH directly without participating in a post-high school class, but it is highly recommended that students participate in at least one year of a post-high school program through Life Work, Community Campus, or a School-Based Program. Each site has a teacher and an employment specialist provided by SJCSO and a job coach provided by The ARC of St. Johns. The ARC of St. Johns provides transportation to the post-high school sites.

Program Requirements:

- Be between 18-21 (services are provided up to their 22nd birthday).
- Have a Transition Individual Education Plan (TIEP), with paid employment as a goal/student desire.
- **Qualify for Supported Employment through Vocational Rehabilitation by March 2024.**
- Have a desire for paid employment in their community.
- Demonstrate consistent school attendance and punctuality.
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct oneself in social, private, and/or personal settings with limited staff assistance or when unsupervised.
- Be motivated to work and learn the vocational/academic skills necessary for paid employment.
- Be independent in personal hygiene, toileting, grooming, and dress in the appropriate school or work attire.
- Possess the ability, physically or with adaptive equipment, to move from one location to another without staff assistance or supervision.
- Possess the ability, physically or with adaptive equipment, to feed oneself independently.
- Present a means to independently communicate and communicate name/emergency contact information in a form that is comprehensible to others.
- Function independently without one-on-one supervision in all settings, including transportation.
- Be able and willing to utilize general education transportation independently to and from program sites.
- Can cross streets at major intersections safely with limited supervision or assistance.
- Have a state ID and Social Security Card or Work Authorization to obtain employment by the date of enrollment in the program.

Disclaimer

Please note that students must apply and be accepted to participate in any of the SJCSO Transition Programs (Life Work, Project Search, Community Campus). Once the student's application has been reviewed, a team member will contact the family to schedule an IEP meeting. SJCSO Transition Programs (Life Work, Project Search, Community Campus) reserve the right to dismiss any student who is unable to comply with the program requirements. If dismissed from an SJCSO Transition Program an IEP meeting will be held to discuss next steps.

Please contact Lynne Funcheon, Program Director, to set up a tour.
Email: lfuncheon@arcsj.org
Telephone: (904) 844-7249 Dial 0 for the Operator to be connected

A Charter School of the St. Johns County School District. An affiliate program of The Arc of the St. Johns.

COMPELLING VALUE – MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

A typical student will graduate from high school at the age of 18. The average student with Intellectual/Developmental Disability (I/DD) or other qualifying ESE measures, may complete public high school at the age of 21. The Community Campus provides a vocationally focused opportunity for students to prepare for gainful employment and practical life skills upon graduation.

Our Vision

One day people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) will participate as full members of their communities, throughout their lives.

Our Mission

Provide the opportunity for hope, growth, and change to people with (I/DD) in our community.

Program Requirements:

- Be an Exceptional Education Student with an IEP with prescribed transition services.
- Have met graduation requirements (with a deferred Standard Diploma) and reside within the School District of Saint John's County boundaries.
- Must be between the ages of 18-21.
- Have a Transition Individual Education Plan (TIEP)
- Demonstrate a desire to work or to learn the functional/vocational/academic skills necessary for interdependent living.
- Utilize specialized transportation without an aide.
- Be independent in self-administering medication(s) as prescribed, as necessary.
- Demonstrate consistent school attendance and punctuality.

We also offer Day Programs for students 22 and beyond. The program requirements are as follows:

- The student must have the Medicaid Waiver. If they are eligible, but do not have the Med Waiver, they need to become a client of the ARC of St. Johns 6 months to 1 year prior to ending their deferment.
- If the family is interested in pursuing one of the ARCs residential programs, they will need to become a client of the ARC for a minimum of 1 year prior to ending their deferment.
- If the student is on the waitlist for the Medicaid Waiver, they will need to apply for Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR).

Disclaimer

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St. John's County School District, Exceptional Student Education Department
Jennifer Argentina, ESE Program Specialist
40 Orange St, St. Augustine, FL 32084
Phone: (904) 547-3433

Application for Transition Programs

- 1) The student and parent(s) review the attached Program Eligibility Criteria and Program Overview.
- 2) The student and Parent(s) should visit the Transition Program to observe the culture and meet the instructor before completing the registration to the transition program.
- 3) The student deferred receipt of their diploma to participate in a work-study program.
- 4) The IEP team will submit a completed application packet with supporting documentation by March 15th to Jennifer Argentina.
- 5) An IEP meeting will be scheduled and must include a representation of a SJCS D Transition Program.

Please type or print the application in ink. The application may be completed by the student independently or with assistance. The applicant, his or her parent/guardian, counselor, teacher, or employer may be contacted by the Selection Committee to gather additional information.

Application Checklist

- Completed application packet.
- Permission to invite outside agencies (Please include Vocational Rehabilitation, Community Campus, and Agencies for Persons with Disabilities when appropriate).

Court Guardianship Documentation (if applicable) will be submitted upon acceptance to the program. Government-issued photo ID and Social Security Card/Work Authorization must be presented upon enrollment in the program.

Please keep in mind that ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SENT WITH THE APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED. A submitted Application does not guarantee that the applicant will be invited to attend Readiness Activities. Program participation is an IEP Team decision.

All information contained in the application will be kept confidential.

APPLICATION PACKET

— SJCSD TRANSITION PROGRAMS FOR 18-22 YEAR OLDS

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

To be completed by the parent/guardian in collaboration with the student.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Male/Female
(Last, First, M.I.) (MM/DD/YYYY)

School Currently Attending: _____ Student # _____ Graduation _____
(YYYY)

Home Address: _____
(Street, City, Zip Code)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address (if different from student) _____
(Street, City, Zip Code)

Telephone number (if different from student) _____

STUDENT LEGAL RIGHTS (please check one):

- The student makes his/her own legal decisions.
- The parent has guardianship or is a guardian advocate. (*Court Documentation must be provided upon acceptance into the program*)

TRANSPORTATION AND FORM OF IDENTIFICATION (please check one):

How do you plan to get to the transition program?

- Parent (or family member) Drive self or Public Transit School District Transportation

Check which form of identification & employment authorization you have to provide potential employee:

- Florida Identification Florida Driver Learner's Permit
- Florida Driver License I do not have a Florida Photo Identification card
- Social Security Card/Work Authorization I do not have a SS card or Work Authorization

SERVICE AGENCIES:

Are you eligible for services from The Agency for Persons with Disabilities?

- Yes No On the wait-list

Name of support coordinator: _____

Support Coordinator's email: _____

Support Coordinator's telephone number: _____

Are you eligible for services from Vocational Rehabilitation?

- Yes No On the wait-list

Name of support coordinator: _____

Support Coordinator's email: _____

Support Coordinator's telephone number: _____

List one goal for your student's future in each area:

1) Academics: _____

2) Education: _____

3) Social/Leisure: _____

4) Independent Living: _____

Career/Employment:

My student will work part-time after high school.

My student will work full-time.

My student will not work.

I am concerned that my student will lose their benefits if they work part or full-time.

Does your student have a job and plan to work during the school year in addition to being in the program?

Yes If yes, where: _____

No How many days/hours per week? _____

Which program is the student interested in attending (Select first and second choice)?

Life Work _____

Community Campus _____

Project Search _____

Dual Enrollment at FCTC _____

Is this student a client with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)?

Yes

No

Not sure

Does the student have SSI?

Yes

No

Not sure

Does the student have Medicaid?

Yes

No

Not sure

Please add any additional information you feel may be relevant to this student.
