

STACKABLE RESOURCES



Youth Apprenticeship and Students with Disabilities

Youth Apprenticeship (YA) ensures that youth with disabilities are provided full access to high-quality services in integrated settings to maximize their opportunity for employment and independent living. Youth Apprenticeship can partner with other programs to provide youth with disabilities the access they need to employment services. Department of Workforce Development staff can also offer information about employment of minors laws, workers' compensation, and hazardous occupation exemptions for 16 and 17 year olds.

Stackable Resources

To support participation in YA, students and schools may have access to a number of resources, including transportation, case management, and vocational counseling. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title 1, and YA funding can be used simultaneously to support the student in YA.

Potential Funding for YA AGE 14 16 18 20 22 24 CTE* TIG* WIOA Title 1 YA Grant DVR

Connecting with Resources to Remove Barriers to Employment

DVR: Every high school in Wisconsin has an assigned DVR Counselor. Find the list of DVR's Liaisons to Wisconsin Schools at https://dwd.wi.gov/dvr/job-seekers/transition/pdf/school-liaisons.pdf

WIOA Title 1: WIOA is a federal program that provides funding locally for different workforce programs. Contact your local Job Center to connect with a WIOA Career Planner who can work with your students. You can find your local Job Center at JobCenterofWisconsin.com/directory.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grant: Your school may receive up to \$1,000 per student for each student who completes a qualifying certificate. All YA Certificates qualify. Find more information at dpi.wi.gov/cte/technical-incentive or contact ya@dwd.wi.gov.

Special Education Transition Incentive Grant (TIG): Districts may receive up to \$1,500 of additional funding per student with a qualifying Individualized Education Program (IEP). Find your TIG contact at https://witig.org/contact/

^{*}Funds awarded per completion

Recruiting Students with Disabilities for Youth Apprenticeships

Recruiting and supporting students with disabilities in apprenticeships attracts a broader pool of qualified talent and creates a more inclusive Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program. Individuals with disabilities account for a large portion of our current and future workforce and are qualified and eager to work. Here are a few things you can do to help better engage students with disabilities and meet your hiring needs.

Top Ten Tips for Success

- 1. Involve the potential YA student in YA recruitment process
- 2. Practice with mock interviews
- 3. Build relationships (Chamber of Commerce, civic groups, etc.)
- 4. Match worker skills to business needs
- 5. Develop a good "elevator" speech
- 6. Conduct informational interviews (informal meetings with potential employers where students can get a feel for the industry without the stress of a hiring decision)
- 7. Use a variety of recruitment strategies (e.g., word of mouth, online job board, newspaper)
- 8. Develop a thought-out action plan with the student
- 9. Disclose disability-related information only as necessary
- 10. Never give up!

