

Educators Guiding Principles of Supported Employment

As an Educator, your role is to support your students to work towards a transition from school to employment. To accomplish this, you need to:

- Start the transition process early. The transition should start early in the education process, not when the student is in their last year of school. It is the best practice to start when the student is entering high school.
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect at all times.
- Provide the right amount of support; to not over-support (don't do the job for the student) or simply drop them off and not provide support.
- Keep an open mind to the possibilities and capabilities of each student.
- Be an appropriate role model to students regarding employment.
- Give control of the Job Seeker process to the student.
- Support the student to ensure a successful outcome.
- Represent yourself in a professional manner to everyone involved—students, services-providers, parents, Employers, and the general community.
- Encourage independence in each student: we all have the right for dignity of risk (to try something out and if we fail, to learn from it).

By following these guiding principles, you can help your students prepare for their life after school as an employee.