

EMPLOYMENT FIRST



STUDENTS

enrolled in school & under age 24

Expect a future where you have a job you love, like everyone else, earning money to live independently

Share with your family, teachers, DDD Support Coordinator your desire to work, your dreams, and your future

Recognize what you like (interests) and what you're good at (strengths)

Observe different jobs around you and consider whether it interests you

Explore the careers or jobs you are interested in (take a tour, talk to someone, research online, etc.)

Understand your disability and what supports work best for you. **Learn** about yourself

Speak Up for yourself & **Participate** in decisions about your life

Attend & Lead your Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings.

Include employment goals in your IEP including goals to do work experience in the community

Participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services (PreETS) through RSA/Vocational Rehabilitation

Utilize your exceptional student services or disability resource centers

Learn what type of work environment you thrive in

Socialize with friends & **Join** community groups to learn how to work with others

Talk with workers with disabilities about their experience, what worked & what didn't work for them