



Office for People With
Developmental Disabilities

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Office for People With
Developmental Disabilities



What Should I Do With My Day?

Employment & Community Activities for
People with Developmental Disabilities



(866) 946-9733 | NY Relay System 711

www.opwdd.ny.gov



Getting and Keeping a Job

OPWDD employment services help you identify your strong points, skills, and interests. Employment staff help you:

- Put together your resume,
- Get ready for job interviews,
- Find jobs in the community,
- Apply for jobs, and get ready for and go to job interviews,
- Find the right job,
- Find ways to get places in the community and learn to go places with less help.

Once you have a job, employment staff help you learn what you need to know to do your job, help when your job changes, and help you understand how to fit in with other employees at work. Your employment staff will come and help you at work more often or less often depending on what you need.



Employment service choices include:

Pathway to Employment - a person-centered service that works with you to:

- Identify your job interests and goals,
- Give you training on skills and information you need to know before you get a job, and
- Help you plan for getting a job in the community at or above minimum wage.

You can choose Pathway to Employment If you are receiving day habilitation or pre-vocational services, if you are a student leaving high school, or if you are someone who is interested in getting and keeping a job.

Employment Training Program (ETP) gives you the chance to apply for a paid internship that builds job experience in a community business and be paid at least minimum wage. ETP helps people:

- Get work experience while in school, and
- Get internships after high school that make it easier for you to get a paying job.

In ETP, you will learn what you need to know to keep a job. ETP gives you job readiness classes that teach you how to act at and outside of your job. ETP also helps you find the right job for you, gives you job coaching to help you learn what you need to do your job, and works with you on other important job skills.

Community Prevocational Service helps you get ready to work by helping you build on your strong points and learn the skills you need to do well at work. Staff work with you to help you learn:

- Good work skills like finishing tasks, solving problem, and following directions,
- Good work habits, like how to act at your job, how to act with the people you work with, how to use tools you need for your job, and how to stay safe,
- How to get around in your community and how to go places with less help.

Supported Employment (SEMP) gives you the supports that you need to get and keep a paid job in the community. People with developmental disabilities often get supported employment after getting intensive supported employment services from ACCES-VR (New

York State Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation), Pathway to Employment, or Employment Training Program (ETP).



Be Active in Your Community

OPWDD provides supports that help you learn what you need to know to be more independent and to be an active member of your community. These supports can help you learn how to:

- Get along with other people,
- Act in different situations,
- Be a self-advocate,
- Find ways to get places in the community, and
- Go places with less help.

Staff can help you take part in activities you are interested in like volunteering, sports or other hobbies.)

Community Habilitation (CH) is a service you can get at home and in the community that provides staff to help you learn and keep the skills you need to live safely and more independently, meet people and make and keep friends, take part in community activities, and be part of your community. CH can be either self-directed or agency-sponsored.

Day Habilitation (Day Hab) is a service provided in the community (day hab without walls) or in certified sites in the community by staff who help you learn and keep skills, take part in community activities, meet people and make friends, and be part of the community.