



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF REHABILITATION SERVICES
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“Helping individuals with disabilities to choose, find and keep employment”

PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES: DARE TO DREAM

I. PURPOSE OF SERVICE:

The annual Dare to Dream Leadership Conference is organized by the Department of Health, in collaboration with Local Education Authorities (LEAs), RIDE, and ORS. The program is based on a national model, and provides students with disabilities an opportunity to experience self-determination, leadership, and self-advocacy skills. Participants learn valuable skills such as assertiveness, teamwork, public speaking, time management, and mentoring.

II. PROGRAM ELEMENTS:

The conference is a day-long event led by student participants with disabilities, with keynote speakers and break-out sessions geared to such topic areas as: Life with a Disability, the Future is Mine, Healthy Living, and Keeping a Job 101. At registration, each participant selects the sessions that he/she will attend during the day.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

The conference assists students with disabilities to develop self-advocacy skills designed:

1. To learn about individual rights and responsibilities in a work setting.
2. To learn how to request accommodations, services, and/or supports on the job.
3. To learn to appropriately communicate thoughts, concerns, ideas, and needs in a work environment with supervisors, co-workers, and peers.
4. To explore the impact of a disability on work performance and how to manage such impacts.

IV. STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

1. The local education authority identifies students with disabilities for participation.
2. Potential participants are registered with the Department of Health.
3. Department of Health gathers participant information necessary for involvement in an ORS funded PRE-ETS service.
4. Participants attend program and results results/findings within the classroom.

V. PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES:

1. Category of Required PRE-ETS Service: Self-Advocacy
2. Service Code: PRE-ETS DARE TO DREAM
3. Fee: \$25.00