

**IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
GRANT ABSTRACT**

TITLE:

Transition Partnership Project (TPP) Contract 2015-2016
Employment Services for Youth with Disabilities

SCHOOLS:

Creekside High School University High School
Irvine High School Woodbridge High School
Northwood High School

PURPOSE:

The Transition Partnership Project (TPP) was designed to address employment and career development needs of youth with disabilities ages 16-24. For the last 20 years, TPP funding has been provided through a partnership with the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). The TPP Program provides specialized services including job development, job coaching and employment retention skills. Funding is also provided to promote employment for youth and young adults with a wide range of disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT EFFORT:

1) Linking Student Work to Careers and 2) Developing People and Building Community

NEED:

The unemployment rate in CA is currently 6.5% and in Orange County 4.4%. These numbers represent figures for all individuals. Unfortunately the unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities is much higher and ranges from 67% to 95% depending on the specific disability. Youth with ASD have the lowest rates of participation in employment and the highest rates of no participation compared with youth in other disability categories. There is a definite need to educate youth, including those with ASD regarding the importance of employment as part of self sufficiency and successful, quality adult independence. In addition, it is critical that youth know how to access support services. The TPP Program provides the opportunity to bring in additional funding and resources to support transition age youth.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Economic self sufficiency and adult independence will be promoted through a focus on employment.
 - 1.1 Participants will develop an employment action plan that includes work experiences (on-the-job training, internships and/or direct hires).
 - 1.2 Career/vocational assessment will be used to match participants to employment opportunities.
2. Ensure provision of needed employment related support services to participants.
 - 2.1 Connect TPP funded and non-funded services
 - 2.2 Promote career ladder employment opportunities

ACTIVITIES:

- Participants will be assigned to a service coordinator who will facilitate access to needed services that will support success of the participant in their short and long term employment related goals.
- Job Developers will work with business partners to identify appropriate work sites for participants.
- Participants with ASD will participate in The Technology in the Workplace (TiW) Program which is a partnership with the University of California Irvine (UCI) to introduce the use of touch screen technology in the workplace for training and employment.
- Participants with intellectual disabilities will participate in the Project Search program at Medtronic.

EVALUATION:

Specific employment related outcome data will be collected in keeping with the evaluation plan designated by the California Department of Rehabilitation.

POPULATION:

Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities 16-24 including those with ASD and IDD who meet the eligibility criteria as defined by the California Department of Rehabilitation.

BUDGET:

The budget includes, \$577,294 in the fiscal year 2015-2016.