



MyPathNY.org

MyPathNY.org is a free website designed to help all New York State students and young adults with disabilities move from school and other places to a competitive, integrated job. It's easy to use, and starts with each user giving the website basic information to help identify where they are on their path. Through a series of Yes/No questions, the website generates an individualized report for each unique user with a list of steps to take to get started on a path to employment. The website can be used by a young adult independently, or alongside a trusted adult.

Putting MyPathNY.org to work for you.

Four user sessions were developed to help users move along on their path to employment.

Session 1: Getting Connected

- By answering a series of questions, users find out who to talk to and where to go to get started, based on their experience to date.
- The steps in each report outline how to connect with people and resources in NYS to move from school and other settings to a paying job. If the user is blind or visually impaired, the site connects them to the New York State Commission for the Blind. All others are connected to ACCES-VR, and to OPWDD as appropriate.

Session 2: Preparing for Work

- The questions in this session result in a report that provides information users will need when they decide it's time to find a job.
- Users will learn what goes into a resume, why references are important and how to prepare for job interviews.

Session 3: The Partners on Your Path

- This session starts with a fun introduction to important state agencies that can work together to help young adults with disabilities on their path to employment.
- The question series help users identify services available through the state agencies that can help on their path to employment, such as assistive technology and transportation training.

Session 4: Working Has Benefits

- This session has four parts. It starts with a dream board sequence, followed by a financial literacy session and a benefits planning session. It finishes with a session that reviews overall employment readiness.
- There is an interactive Working Has Benefits Calculator that performs a simple calculation of the impact of work on SSI income.



MyPathNY.org was developed as part of the New York State Partnerships in Employment Systems Change (NYS PIE) project, a Project of National Significance funded by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The goal of NYS PIE is to improve employment outcomes for youth and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through improved cross-systems collaboration and enhanced access to quality work-readiness training. NYS PIE is a collaboration between the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the NYS Education Department's Adult Career and Continuing Education Services – Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) and Office of Special Education (NYSED P-12/OSE), the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC), and the Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities at the University of Rochester Medical Center (SCDD).

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