

Transition to Work and Living Independence for Young Adults with Autism and other Learning Disabilities

Presented by: Brian F. Geiger, EdD., FAAHE

Hosted by: UF Health/Jacksonville CARD, UF Health FDLRS-MDC

About the Presenter

Brian F. Geiger, EdD, FAAHE, Executive Director, The Horizons School. Dr. Geiger is the chief executive officer of a post-secondary residential program in its 30th year of operation. Licensed by the Alabama Community College System, Horizons provides an innovative and authentic learning program for young adults with learning and other disabilities. Before joining Horizons, Dr. Geiger served for 20 years as a professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), and previously worked as a mental health counselor, rehabilitation consultant, job trainer, and ILP case manager. He has volunteered as a board member for multiple organizations, including the Birmingham Civitan Club, Alabama's AUCEDD at UAB, and the Statewide Independent Living Council. In addition, Dr. Geiger provided volunteer athlete support for Team USA Paralympics, and served many years as an NGO delegate to the Department of Public Information of the U.N. Dr. Geiger promotes effective partnerships to improve opportunities for the wellbeing of all persons.

Training Description

Target Audience: (Classroom teachers & Support Professionals, Parents, & other care providers who guide transition toward adult independence for students with ASD, Learning and other disabilities)

This professional development event will expand the knowledge base to improve transition outcomes for youth with ASD, and enable navigation across different settings (home, neighborhood, school, workplace). Topics will include challenges to adult independence (stigma, discrimination, social and communication difficulties, personal accountability), transition assessment and person-centered planning, training and program activities (supported living, individual guidance, tutoring, transit training, community access), and positive behavioral supports. The presenter will share lessons learned and promote active discussion among participants regarding proven approaches for transition-age youth with learning and other disabilities. Young adults with ASD can successfully transition from secondary school to community work and living independence given advance planning and appropriate support.

Training Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Discuss the characteristics of adolescents and young adults with ASD and identify the critical components of a successful transition plan.
- Understand potential barriers (physical, social, financial, experiential) to competitive employment for individuals with disabilities.
- Identify the transition needs of students with ASD and the critical components of a curriculum as well as daily school-based and community-based activities.
- Comprehend benefits of effective partnerships to enhance wellbeing and career readiness among young adults with autism and other learning disorders.
- Consider local partnership opportunities including agencies, higher education, businesses and regional resources for employment support for transition-age young adults.
- Review knowledge and skills acquired by young adults with learning disabilities through active participation in weekly mentoring activities.
- Understand how collaboration helps to prepare future professionals to serve individuals with ASD.

Regional Trainings are hosted by the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, through the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA), a program funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, K-12 Public Schools, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B.

www.DOEpartnership.org

Date:

June 13, 2022

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Registration begins at 8:00 am

Location:

Adam W. Herbert University Center
University of North Florida
12000 Alumni Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224

Registration Deadline:

June 12, 2022

Limited to first 80 participants

Register Online:

Click [HERE](#)

Registration is mandatory.

For more information contact:

Contact Name

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or (904)-633-0801

Directions:

For directions, click [HERE](#).

Be sure to contact your ESE District Staff or Staff Development Contact to determine the process for receiving in-service.