



# TRANSITION CONTINUUM

Post-Secondary Education and Career Opportunities for Students with Disabilities seeking a Standard Diploma via Access Points

Beginning in 9<sup>th</sup>-grade students seeking Standard Diploma via Access Points will have the opportunity to enroll in Career Preparation and Self-Determination courses. Students may also enroll in Career Experience for additional work experience opportunities. In high school, this would be an introduction class, if a student defers their diploma this course becomes a full-day course in the Structured Work-Study Program. Students who defer their diploma and obtain paid employment would enroll in the Career Placement. Below is a brief overview of each of the courses.

Career Courses for Students:

Career Preparation	Self-Determination	Career Experience	Career Placement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•9th-10th grade</li> <li>•Self-determination and self-advocacy</li> <li>•Career Planning, Career Exploration</li> <li>•Students will explore careers and occupations</li> <li>•Students will learn about community and agency resources</li> <li>•Students will learn about effective work habits</li> <li>•CBI Opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•9th-10th grade</li> <li>•Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy</li> <li>•Choice Making and Motivation</li> <li>•Decision Making and Problem Solving</li> <li>•Personal and Social Relationships</li> <li>•Personal and Career Planning</li> <li>•Leadership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•10th–12th grades intro program</li> <li>•Students on deferral full-time program</li> <li>•Specific to Career Experiences</li> <li>•Unpaid job exploration and work experience</li> <li>•Promotes general work skills and habits</li> <li>•Increase competency and fluency</li> <li>•Focus on 22 general work skills outlined by the U.S. Dept. of Labor</li> <li>•Typically 1 to 2 hours 5 x weekly for High School students, Structured Work Study full day program</li> <li>•CBVE opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students participate in paid work experience with appropriate supports</li> <li>•Transportation NOT provided by SCS students are transportation trained to job sites once placed</li> <li>•Students monitored by ESE teacher and Transition Employment Trainer (Job Coach)</li> <li>•CBVE opportunities</li> </ul>

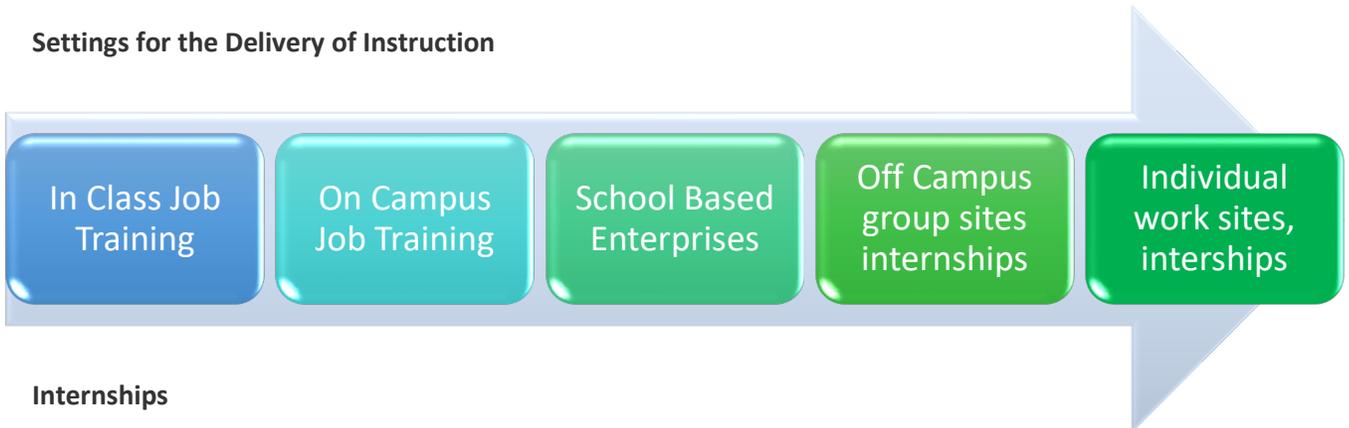
## Community-Based Instruction (CBI)

Schools provide Community-Based Instruction opportunities to promote the transferring of functional skills into the community. Functional skills refer to those skills that a student needs to increase independence and to enhance the quality of life.

## Career-Based Vocational Education (CBVE)

CBVE is vocational education and training provided by high school instructors to students with disabilities in community work settings. This training is non-paid vocational exploration and assessment. The goal of the CBVE program is to help students identify career interests and develop the skills and attitudes necessary for paid employment.

### Settings for the Delivery of Instruction



### Internships

Providing real work settings for students is an important component of job training. Community partnerships are continually developed to support students with internships and job training locations. The following businesses have worked with students in Sarasota County Schools:

- All Faiths Food Bank
- Boys and Girls Club
- Bright Beginnings Preschool
- Burlington
- Chick-Fil-a Pelican Point
- Detwiler's Farm Markey
- G2 Secure
- Goodwill Manasota
- Hampton by Hilton
- Honey Baked Ham
- Peachs Restaurant
- Pet Supplies Plus
- Pines of Sarasota
- Publix Supermarket
- Rise and Nyes
- Salvation Army
- Sarasota County Humane Society
- Sarasota County Schools Athletic Department
- Sarasota County Schools Custodial Department
- Sarasota County Schools Food and Nutrition
- Sarasota Memorial Health Care
- Sharkey's on the Pier
- Southgate Animal Hospital
- Tasty Home Cookin'
- Teen Court
- The Bazaar at Apricot and Lime
- The Winsor of Venice

### CTE Program at Suncoast Technical College for students on Access Points

In Culinary Arts to Careers (CA2C) and Introduction to Baking and Pastry students have the opportunity to train for a variety of careers in the field of food service and preparation emphasizing and building proficiency in food production and cooking, cost control, nutrition, sanitation, and workplace safety. Practical work experience stresses sanitation and safety and includes food preparation. Applications for students on Access Points are available during their junior year and may also apply as part of the deferral process.

## Post-High School Transition Programs

### Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities

The purpose of the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities is to provide support to students, families, and institutions of higher education so that students with intellectual disabilities have opportunities for on-campus college experiences that lead to employment opportunities. A variety of programs are available for students with intellectual disabilities at college campuses across the state. [Find a Post-Secondary Education Program](#) and learn more about programs and steps to apply click [HERE](#)

### Structure Work-Study Program and Deferral of Diploma

During the students' annual Individual Education Plan (IEP) meeting, the team will share information regarding the deferral process. Additional information regarding deferral is located at <https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/Page/4689>

The legislation allows certain students with disabilities to defer receiving the diploma and continue to receive educational services from the school district.

*Only a student whose IEP requires special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services through the age of 21 may defer receipt of their standard diploma. In addition, once a student defers, the student must be enrolled in accelerated college credit instruction, industry certification courses that lead to college credit, a collegiate high school program, courses necessary to satisfy the Scholar designation requirements, or a structured work-study, internship or pre-apprenticeship program in order to continue to receive FAPE (s. 1003.4282 (10)(c), F.S.).*

### Structured Work Study Program

The Post-High School Transition Program provides students with disabilities employment opportunities on and off campus. This program serves students with disabilities who are 18 through 21 years of age with an IEP and have met high school graduation requirements and deferred receipt of their diploma. Sarasota County School District offers a Structured Work Study Program with a specialized curriculum in job training skills for students with disabilities who have met criteria for a Standard Diploma via Access Points and are determined eligible for a deferred diploma.



Sarasota County School's Transition teachers and job coaches provide this post-high school instruction to promote employability and independence through work experience. Students develop marketable and transferable job skills as well as confidence in their own abilities. Sarasota County currently has post-high school structured work-study sites at locations throughout the county.

## Criteria for the Structured Work Study Program

- Students must be between the ages of 18-21, have an IEP, meet all the requirements for graduation, and defer receipt of their diploma by May 15 of their senior year.
- Students must have some successful Community-Based Instruction (CBI), Career-Based Vocational Education (CBVE), and/or volunteer experience during 9-12 grades.
- Students who have demonstrated successful off-campus work experiences are encouraged to apply.
- Student/parent/guardian must have a goal for employment or independence that is reflected in the Transition IEP.
- Student attendance and behavior records are considered a factor for eligibility and placement.
- Students must have sufficient emotional and behavioral stability to participate in all aspects of the program.
- Students must accept and follow reasonable rules and behave respectfully towards others.
- Parents/guardians are requested to visit the Post-High School Transition site before a student is selected.
- Student should be in the process of becoming a client of Vocational Rehabilitation or a related agency
- Students will participate in non-paid work-based experience to continue to improve employability skills. All coursework will focus on facilitating vocations and employability skills which may include the following:
  - work-based learning experiences in the community
  - community-based instruction
  - school-based enterprises
  - self-determination and self-advocacy training
  - communication and social skills training
  - transportation training on public transportation

Students must complete an application process. Once accepted, students will defer their diploma by May 15 of their 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year. Students will enroll in the Structured Work Study Program for the next school year.

## Exiting the Structured Work Study Program

- Students who have successfully demonstrated the employment competencies for one semester, will be continue working with their connected agencies and exit the program
- Students who are aging out of the program will continue working with their connected agencies and exit the program when they have reached exit age (21).
- Students may end a deferral at any time upon request and be transitioned to the connected outside agencies
- If a student is not enrolled or attending the Structured Work Study program, a meeting will be held with student and family to transition to outside agencies and end deferral.

## Agency Collaboration

A variety of agencies can play a role in providing services to students and families. Programs may offer services, funding, programs or supports that can be very valuable in assisting in the transition process.

See <https://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/Page/4701> for additional information on these agencies and others.



**Florida** Center for Students with  
**UNIQUE ABILITIES**

