



# The Bancroft School Transition Program

Bancroft's Transition Program works with students ages 18–21 in the critical time in their lives when skill-building and finding the right vocational opportunity can make a lasting impact for their future.

Bancroft matches businesses with interns whose strengths and skills fit their needs. We facilitate internship opportunities and provide each student with the support they need to achieve success. Workers with disabilities have many abilities – and have proven to be dependable and engaging employees.

## What is the cost? It's FREE!

We provide our services at no cost to employers. We help train the individual you hire for free.

#### What are the benefits to you?

#### Bancroft can provide you with:

- Job training and on-the-job assistance by skilled employment specialists
- Ongoing support for the employer and employee
- Tax incentive information
- Job accommodation information and assistance
- ADA consultation and technical assistance
- Employer/employee education and sensitivity training

#### Why hire someone with a disability?

Employees with disabilities are generally reliable, enthusiastic and highly motivated. They value the opportunity to work and be contributing members of society.

In addition, hiring individuals with disabilities creates a more diverse workplace and demonstrates a company's commitment to community values. It's a win-win situation and it makes great business sense.

#### **Program Leadership**

**Chris Masterson** 

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#### **Employers and Volunteer Associates**

- Kenny's World
- Fellowship Alliance Church
- We Rock the Spectrum
- Organico Pizza
- Papa Joe's Salt
- Hampton Inn
- Creative Wraps
- Taproom
- TJ Maxx

Bancroft admits people of any race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin to all programs, activities, rights and privileges generally provided to people served by the organization.



## Here's how it works

#### Vocational exploration and introduction to skills

Students begin with vocational exploration and a basic introduction to skills as early as the elementary years. Students are exposed to various trades, activities, and skills that all build up to internships in the Transition Program. This education does not stop when a student reaches 18; teachers continue to work with students through age 21 to expose them to as many vocations as possible through lessons, community outings, and introductory skill development.

#### Strengths, interests and preference assessments

During the vocational exploration phase, students are assessed and observed to determine key strengths and interests, which will benefit them in the vocational selection process. Vocational Preference Assessments are also used, when appropriate, to facilitate student desires in work settings.

#### **Vocational sampling**

All internship decisions are made by the Vocational Team, which includes all individuals who work with the student (clinical therapists, vocational coordinator, job coaches, classroom teacher, behavior analysts, etc.) The team will choose internships for the student to sample based on their predetermined preferences, strengths and interests. The team meets on a regular basis to re-evaluate internship progress and make changes as needed.

#### Internships and volunteer positions

Companies provide unpaid internships and volunteer positions to students seeking further skill advancement in the field. Bancroft Transition paraprofessionals and job coaches provide support every step of the way to help train the student. This allows the intern to gain valuable work experience and prepares him/her to be successful in a workplace setting.

# Learn more at bancroft.org



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# Transition Planning



#### When should I start planning?

It is never too soon to start researching post-graduation programs and supports – there are many programs that meet different needs. You should also keep a record of any evaluations or diagnoses your child receives while they are in school.

#### How can I ensure a smooth transition?

Work with your child and school personnel to develop a strong transition plan that includes a set of goals for after graduation. Include a timeline so you can monitor your progress. You can learn more about transition plans here: www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/ transition/SampleActivitiesStrategies.pdf.

# What services are available to my child after 21?

There are a variety of ways an individual can participate in day services after age 21, including employment, structured day programs, in-home and self-directed day services.

#### How are these services funded?

Programs are typically funded through the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits or through private pay.

# How can I find out if my child is eligible for state funding?

Contact the Intake/Intensive Unit of your local DDD Community Services Office or apply online at www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/services/ apply/index.html. You can find out where your Community Services Office is by visiting www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/staff/cso.

To ensure your child is eligible for Medicaid, fill out the Medicaid Eligibility Troubleshooting Form found at www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/services/ medicaideligibility.html.

### When should we apply for funding?

It is a good idea to begin planning for the transition to the adult system when your child is still in high school. A child can be referred to DVRS up to two years before leaving high school, and you are encouraged to apply for DDD services at age 18. If determined eligible, you should contact your DDD office when your child turns 20 for next steps.

