

Special Learning Webcast Overview



Transition Survival 104: Vocational Topics and Job Coaching

Speaker: Michele LaMarche, BCBA

Date: July 26, 2012

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm EST

Format: 100 minutes of content with 20 minutes of real-time Q&A (via chat) available after the presentation.

To Register:

www.special-learning.com/webinar/july/job_coaching

CE Credits:

Eligible for 2 BCBA and BCaBA Continuing Education Credits
Eligible for 2 Social Work CEU's in the state of Ohio

CEU's provided by Step by Step Academy



BACB Approved Provider #: OP-10-2011

Social Workers Approved Provider #: RSX071001

Abstract:

Unemployment in the United States has been higher lately with the current economic situation. Unemployment for people with autism continues to hover around the 50-75% level (Hendricks, 2010), therefore it is imperative that we, as professionals, make sure we are doing everything possible to assist individuals with autism in finding meaningful employment that highlights their strengths, gives them a productive way to make a living wage and allows them to participate in work that they find enjoyable and important.

There are several challenges and barriers that people with autism face as they enter the world of work, including communication challenges, behavioral issues, cognitive difficulties, and an employment environment that doesn't always understand the supports people with autism need to enhance their work performance. People with co-morbid conditions or who are more cognitively challenged face even more barriers to employment (Hendricks, 2010).

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Abstract:

There are many supports that can be put in place in an employment situation and skills that can be taught that can assist people with autism in being more successful with work.

Some of these are:

- Getting around their community and using public transportation
- Understanding directions
- Asking for help
- Knowing when to take breaks and/or lunch
- Learning and responding to body language

And many other skills and supports, including both natural and external supports.

People with autism often learn differently and may require a different level of vocational training and support system. Because people with autism have varying strengths, challenges, and cognitive abilities, it is crucial that, in order to help them learn, practice, and appropriately generalize skills needed for them to be successful in the vocational environment, a thorough assessment is done that includes the job seeker with autism so he or she can provide input about what types of work he or she would like to engage in. It is also important to encourage the job seeker's self-awareness of his or her strengths, gifts, and differences to empower the job seeker, while helping establish his or her motivation to succeed.

Other topics we will be discussing within this webcast include:

- Supervising employees with autism
- Employment possibilities including supported employment, job coaching, customized employment, and microenterprise
- Interventions that seem to show efficacy in obtaining and supporting individuals in employment situations

This event will total 120 minutes with a review of theory, practice and methodology designed for teachers, paraprofessionals, job coaches, counselors, BCABA's and BCBA's working with person's with autism and/or supervising direct treatment staff, and other professionals working with adolescents and/or adults with autism, Asperger's and related disorders.



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Outcomes:

Upon completion of *Transition Survival 104: Vocational Topics and Job Coaching*, participants will:

1. Identify crucial social skills needed for success in self-regulation and relationship building
2. Identify several teaching strategies for use with the student to learn these skills
3. Understand the most effective ways people learn and develop these skills

References:

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U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know your Rights and Responsibilities, Washington, D.C., 2007. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/print/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html>