# Pre-Employment Transition Services

## Definitions

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) represents a collaboration between VR and local education agencies (LEAs). Pre-ETS are an extension of VR and are the first level of services that students can receive from the Department of Human Services. Broadly speaking, Pre-ETS are a transition service that are meant to help prepare students with disabilities for the transition from high school to postsecondary education, employment, and independent living.

Pre-ETS services include:

* Job Exploration Counseling
* Work-Based Learning Experiences
* Workplace Readiness Training
* Counseling on Postsecondary Education Opportunities
* Instruction in Self-Advocacy

These services are designed to help students identify career interests, which may be further explored through later vocational rehabilitation (VR) services. One of the benefits of Pre-ETS is improving the transition of students with disabilities from school to postsecondary education or employment.

## Guiding Questions

* Does my school offer Pre-ETS?
* How often does the Pre-ETS provider come to the school?
* What skills is the Pre-ETS provider working on with students?
* Can the Pre-ETS provider come to my IEP meeting?
* What are some of the Pre-ETS services that might interest you?
* Have you ever taken a career interest assessment? What did you learn?
* Have you participated in job shadowing? What did you learn?
* Have you received support with job search strategies?
* Have you ever led your IEP meeting? What did you learn from this experience?

## Resources

[EMPOWER November Monthly Deep Dive - Pre-ETS](https://us3.campaign-archive.com/?u=fd5a09f5d46220521eae91c06&id=e91029755e) EMPOWER VI dives deeper into eligibility, services, and providers for Pre-ETS in their archived Newsletter.

[What Should I Know About Pre-Employment Transition Services](https://transitiontn.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/What-Should-I-Know-About-Pre-Employment-Transition-Services-Pre-ETS.pdf) TransitionTN provides this Tip Sheet to help readers understand what they should know about Pre-ETS including the basics and myths.

If you’d like more information about Pre-ETS within your region of Tennessee, call 833-751-0597. Or, visit [Pre-Employment Transition Services (tn.gov)](https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/ds/vocational-rehabilitation/transition-services/pre-employment-transition-services.html) to contact your local Pre-ETS supervisor for your area.

Pre-ETS may look different in other states. We recommend starting the conversation about what Pre-ETS looks like in your state by speaking with your school counselor, special education teacher, and/ or your local VR Office: [State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies (ed.gov)](https://rsa.ed.gov/about/states)