Skill Centers in High Schools Throughout Washington

Preparing highschool students for work after school

Skills Centers prepare high school juniors and seniors for vocational careers in a wide variety of fields, with hands-on training that's great for students who thrive in a non-traditional learning environment. They're an extension of the student's day (about two and a half hours) and are offered to any local area high school student within a Skills Center's region. As part of the general education curriculum, they're a great way for students with disabilities to tap into interests and abilities that lead to employment Although Skill Centers are staffed by the host school district, it's up to the home high school to provide the necessary supports and accommodations (included in the IEP).

Skill Center Training and the IEP

If your student is about to become a junior or senior, contact your regional Skills Center and ask to schedule a visit. If you feel your student would benefit from attending, invite a representative from the Skills Center to be part of the IEP team. The IEP team considers:

- Is it a good fit?
- Will the student be successful?
- Will they find a career as a result of participating?
- What kind of supports are needed?

If the teams agrees that this is a good placement, and the home high school agrees to send the necessary supports/accomdations, Skill Cetner training is including in the IEP.

As long as they reamined enrolled in high school, the student can continue to participate in the Skills Center until age 21.

WSSCA

There are currently 14 regional Skills Centers across the state serving local area school districts. For list of locations visit washingtonskillscenter.org



Hands On-Learning Opportunities

Skills Centers engage students with hands on (applied) learning in a variety of occuptional skills that relate directly to the job market. They provide active and engaging earning environments for students who thrive with hands-on approach to learning.

Job Preparation

Skill Centers prepare students for careers in culinary arts, office, construction trades, automotive, manufacturing, engineering, early childhood education, veterinary tech, and much more. Disciplines vary from center to center, so be sure to find out what your Skills Center offers. Students are given the opportunity to learn from teachers who are from the specific industires and are able to provide guidance to students to choose career paths.