



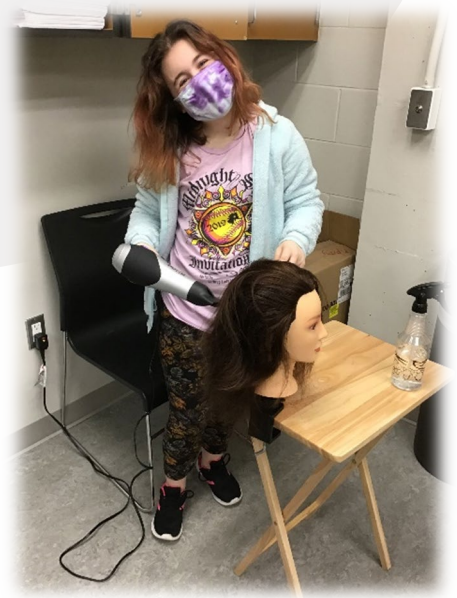
"My students had a chance to practice the technical skills of an occupation. It helped them realize how what they are learning can be applied to the real world." Special Ed Teacher

Bridging the Gap

Students, especially students with disabilities, involved in Career and Technical Education (CTE) statistically have higher graduation rates, higher participation in postsecondary education, and better post-school employment outcomes.

Pathways - School to Career focuses on bridging the gap between Special Education and Career and Technical Education through short term projects that promote:

- Exposure to one or more career clusters;
- A better understanding of a student's interests, values, and strengths; and
- Identification of instructional and support strategies to promote inclusion in more rigorous CTE areas of study.



Pathways provides each student with "hands-on" instruction in one or more occupations within a career cluster. Each participant leaves the experience with:

- A chance to practice technical skills associated with an occupation;
- Exposure to workplace expectations and the work readiness skills required by employers in that occupation; and
- An understanding of the academic skills and course of study required to enter and advance in that occupation.

Pathways is a partnership between DVR, DEED Special Education, and CTE that gives students with disabilities the opportunity to explore careers and encourage further participation in CTE. Funding is provided for time and materials to schools and/or teachers to implement Pathways projects.

You can view the Invitation to Provide a Pathways Proposal and the FAQ at:

https://labor.alaska.gov/dvr/transition/linked-documents/CTE_invitation_final_and_FAQ.pdf