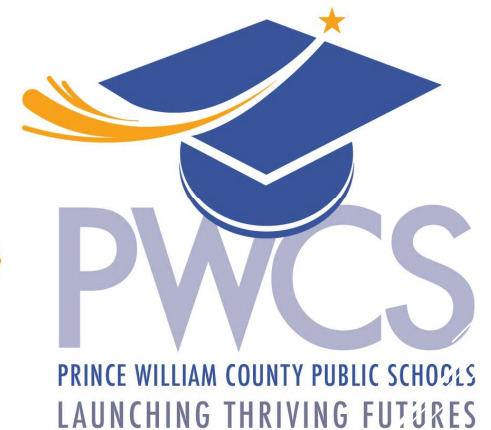


Explore



**PWCS High-Quality
Work-Based Learning
Transition Program**



EASTERN SITE



WESTERN SITE

WHAT IS EXPLORE?

A vocational program for students with disabilities, ages 18-22 who have a goal of competitive employment after exiting special education services and graduating from high-school.

The program runs for a school year calendar and interns report to the business host site daily rather than reporting to their base high school. A PWCS teacher and teacher-assistant supports each program site.



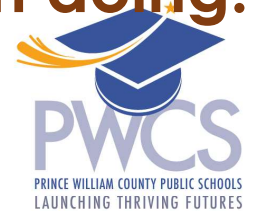


EXPLORE GOAL

COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT!!!

At the end of the program, our team goal is to have each intern competitively employed. This means hard work, communication, and dedication must be given by each intern in order to be successful.

“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”
– Theodore Roosevelt



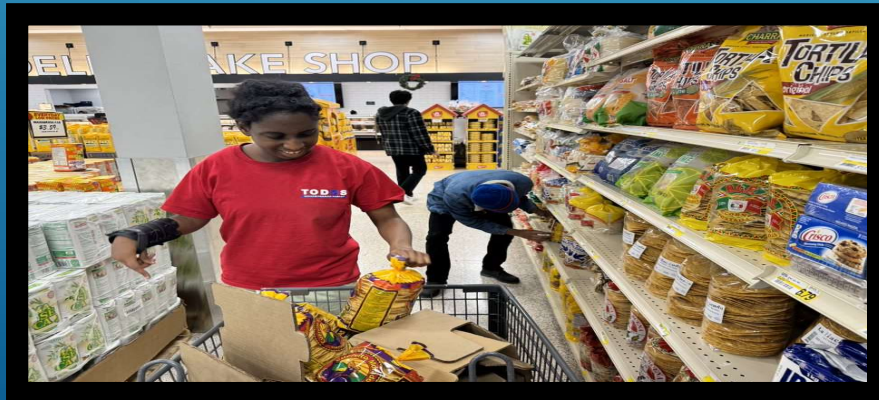
What are your plans?



What are your Skills?



What are your Dreams?





CURRICULUM:

Throughout the program year, the interns work on employability and functional skills for approximately one hour of their day in the classroom setting. Through a series of three targeted internships the interns acquire competitive, marketable and transferable skills to enable them to apply for a related position. Interns also build communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills which is important to their overall development as a young worker.

These are unpaid work experiences-analogous to the clinical rotations that are part of every business internship program. Interns spend approximately five hours each day at the internships, which includes a thirty-minute lunch. Working from a task list, they acquire the core skills necessary to be hired in an entry-level position at the host business site or in the community. Skills trainers and department staff collaborate to provide support for interns.



Daily Schedule

7:45 am- Arrive at business-classroom for 1 hour

9:30 am- Leave classroom for internships

12:00 pm- 30-minute lunch break (time varies due to department)

2:00 pm- Return to classroom for Team Meeting

2:15 pm- Interns are released for the day

**Please note that programs follows the Prince William County Schools calendar. If Prince William County Schools are closed due to weather, interns will NOT report to program.

EXAMPLES OF EXPLORE INTERNSHIPS

- ▶ Merchandise Stocking
- ▶ Cashier/Bagging
- ▶ Maintain Produce department
- ▶ Customer Service
- ▶ Foodservice - dining room attendant
- ▶ Kitchen - food preparation and dishwashing
- ▶ Food delivery - taking orders and delivering meals to residents in their apartments.
- ▶ Laundry
- ▶ Housekeeping
- ▶ Customer service - e.g., front desk
- Mailroom - e.g., sorting mail into residents' mailboxes
- Shipping, receiving, and stocking
- Transporting residents
- Social and recreational activities with residents
- Clerical - e.g., library

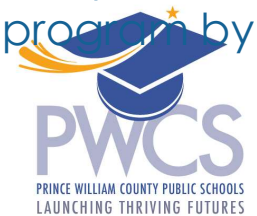


PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:


Students must meet the following requirements:

- Age 18—22 years old.
- Have an Individualized Education Program.
- Follow directions and accept constructive criticism.
- Must meet PWCS attendance and behavior policies.
- Participated in community-based employment experiences (CBI).
- Participated in work-based learning opportunities (EMPLOY Internships).
- A one-year commitment to the program for the length of the school-year.
- Have the desire to work competitively in the community at the conclusion of the program.
- Students who are referred by the transition specialist at the local high school, complete required paperwork to the program, participate in an interview and assessment day, and are selected into the program by the Explore steering committee.

Note: Each program site, enrolls up to 10 interns.



BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Provides the opportunity to acquire work and social skills necessary to find and maintain competitive, integrated employment
 - • Learn transferable work skills
 - • Allows exploration of job skills
 - • Learn and practice appropriate interactions in the workplace
 - • Facilitates the transition from school to work
- 

TRANSPORTATION

Please Note: Public transportation is highly encouraged to allow for interns to practice and learn independence.



WHAT'S NEXT?

Decide if Explore is the right program for
you!

Complete Required Documents and Submit to:

High School Transition Specialist

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Any Questions???

