

STUDENTS ARE EVALUATED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Appearance/ grooming
- Getting along with others
- Initiative, energy, drive
- Responding appropriately to authority figures
- Completing work in a given amount of time
- Quality of work
- Being on time and prepared for work
- Following directions and policies
- Responding appropriately to redirection
- Dependability

WORK EXPERIENCE/ A.T.P. MISSION:

The ATP will provide an environment for students to develop adult skills in the areas of independent living, job training, social relationships, recreation, and community participation.

WHAT MAKES A.T.P. STUDENTS GOOD EMPLOYEES?

- Loyal and dependable
- Responsible and respectful
- Honest and trustworthy
- Motivated and inspired

Work Experience Brochure



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WHAT IS THE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM?

- Grand Forks Public Schools Program
- 17th year of partnering with Grand Forks businesses
- Over 50 community partnerships
- GFPS job coaches available
- 86 years of staff experience
- 10 item rubric used to evaluate students quarterly
- Work experience is *not* a job placement program, although, community partners have the option to and do hire A.T.P. students

WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM?

- GFPS students who have earned their graduation credits and are eligible for a high school diploma
- Range from 18-21 years of age
- Are on an Individualized Education Plan
- Have sufficient pre-vocational skills to work in a semi-competitive job

- Need job site placements to improve their soft and hard skills, as authentic employment opportunities cannot be simulated in the classroom
- Possess varying levels of ability; however, most students will be competitively employed after exiting the GFPS

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- Students are placed according to their interests and abilities
- Student/ job coach wages and workers compensation are covered through the GFPS
- Job coaching is available for two or more students per placement
- Students may work up to 10 hours per week, Monday- Friday, typically between 8:30am-2:30pm
- Follows the GFPS district calendar during the school year, as well as GFPS summer school calendar
- Informal contracts are drawn up between GFPS and community partners outlining specifics of the work experience placements
- Progress is noted though quarterly reviews by job coaches and community partners via emails

- Placements are generally for one semester, but may last longer if they continue to meet the student's individual needs
- Students utilize public transportation Whenever possible

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS?

Even short-term work experiences can be valuable as a way for all youth to develop skills, contacts, and awareness regarding career options. Research shows that having a competitive paid job in secondary school is the strongest predictor of job success for youth with disabilities after graduation (Test et. al., 2009; Wagner et al., 2005; Luecking and Fabian, 2000; Colley and Jamison, 1998).

- Provides valuable opportunities to students who may not be able to acquire their own work experiences
- Facilitates positive public perception
- Contributes to a sense of community; builds bonds between student, business and school
- Allows students to be more self sufficient and less likely to rely on social assistance
- Supplemental man hours without additional labor cost