



ExploreVR 

# IT'S EMPLOYMENT

INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY INCLUSION, UMASS BOSTON

**Supporting employment services and outcomes for people with intellectual disabilities**

## A TRAINING SERIES

IT'S EMPLOYMENT is launching an eight-part training series designed to support vocational rehabilitation staff and related partners in the supporting improved employment services and outcomes for individuals with intellectual disabilities who receive services through vocational rehabilitation agencies.

This training series will offer eight self-paced, online training modules that have been developed based on research and promising practices. Each module is equivalent to two hours of learning and CRC credits will be provided. Participants can take just one module, a few or all depending on their professional development needs. A new topic will be offered each month and will be available for one month.

Facilitator guides for each course will be available to support group learning and discussions.

These courses are offered free of charge. [Registration is now open.](#) Once you register for one module you will be able to access all subsequent modules as they are made available.

| FEBRUARY   | MARCH   | APRIL  | MAY  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Supporting Self-determination, Informed Choice and Dignity of Risk | Family Engagement and Employment Success                            | Best Practices in Career Planning and Assessment   | Building Employer Relationships: The Dual Customer Approach                            |
| JUNE   | JULY  | AUGUST   | SEPTEMBER  |
| Planning and Strategies for Job Success                            | Transition Practices that Support Competitive Integrated Employment | Competitive Integrated Employment Approaches (including Supported Employment, Customized Employment and Self Employment) | Best Practices for Cultural Humility and Competency when Providing Employment Services |

## TRAINING MODULES

### **Supporting Self-determination, Informed Choice and Dignity of Risk (February 15, 2021)**

Self-determination, informed choice, and dignity of risk are integral components of effective and authentic person-centered employment planning with your clients with intellectual disabilities. This session will include strategies and resources on how to support the development and inclusion of these components in case management.

### **Family Engagement and Employment Success (March 2021)**

People with intellectual disabilities often have highly involved families and care givers in their lives. This module will address ways to include families in the employment development process, while continuing to maintain a focus on self-determination and person-centered planning.

### **Best Practices in Career Planning and Assessment (April 2021)**

Effective career planning and assessment is critical in helping people with intellectual disabilities find meaningful, well matched careers. This module will explore best practices in career planning, work-based learning strategies as well as the key elements of Discovery and how it can enhance the career planning process.

**Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y6p8sumd>**

## **Building Employer Relationships: The Dual Customer Approach (May 2021)**

A key aspect of the dual customer approach is meeting the businesses' needs while ensuring a quality match and work environment for your job seekers. This module will review strategies in developing business relationships, assessing business needs, and developing employment opportunities through customized employment, job carving, progressive employment, and work-based learning.

## **Planning and Strategies for Job Success (June 2021)**

Helping job seekers develop strategies and plan for job success can involve several different facets and considerations. This module will review best practices in job coaching & supports, assessing & implementing accommodations and assistive technology, identifying natural supports and social inclusion in the workplace, as well as incorporating learning styles and Systematic Instruction.

## **Transition Practices that Support Competitive Integrated Employment (July 2021)**

This module will discuss a variety of factors that have been proven to directly impact employment outcomes for students with intellectual disabilities who are transitioning into adulthood, including Pre-ETS services and strategies in cooperation with secondary education, involving families in the transition and employment planning process, the importance of incorporating self-advocacy and self-determination in skill development, and opportunities for community-based work experiences.

## **Competitive Integrated Employment Approaches (including Supported Employment, Customized Employment and Self Employment) (August 2021)**

Establishing Competitive Integrated Employment opportunities for people with disabilities does not occur through a one-size fits all approach and will depending on the needs, interests, and strengths of your job seekers. This module will provide overviews and resources for Customized Employment, Supported Employment, and Self-employment.

## **Best Practices for Cultural Humility and Competency when Providing Employment Services (September 2021)**

Being aware of, and incorporating cultural priorities and distinctions are important case management skills. This module will explore a variety of cultures and considerations, including the cultures of family, ethnicity, race, gender, geographical, and disability. The intersectionality of disability and other cultures will also be discussed as an important factor in establishing informed choice and family engagement.

### **ABOUT**

ITS EMPLOYMENT is a project of Explore VR at the Institute for Community Inclusion to support improved vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

### **FUNDING**

This innovative training grant is funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (H263C190011).

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Lara Enein | [lara.enein@umb.edu](mailto:lara.enein@umb.edu)

Institute for Community Inclusion | University of Massachusetts Boston



[www.exploreVR.org](http://www.exploreVR.org)