Why connect?

Many teens with disabilities want to participate in the world of work. High school students often start by doing chores, volunteering, taking co-op and getting part-time or summer jobs.

Do you have questions about how to get started or are you looking for support? Join us to learn more about the employment pathway programs offered at Holland Bloorview.

Who is eligible?

Youth who:
- Are living with a disability \(^1\) and want to start to build work experience
- Are in high-school \(^2\) - grades 9, 10, 11 or 12
- Have questions about how to start or are looking for support

How to connect – Employment Information and Consultation Sessions for youth & caregivers

We hold Information Sessions monthly. Contact us to sign up (see below).

Youth and a parent (or other family member) must attend the information and consultation session together. Application forms will be available at the session.

Session overview:
- Why early work experience is important and how it helps – hear from Youth Mentors
- What programs/services are available to support you – see next page
- Youth: See what our programs are like. Participate in a work experience activity and a team ice-breaker.
- Personal consultation and application (if you wish to join our programs)
- After attending this session and if you complete an application form, we will recommend programs or services to support you.

RSVP:
- Spots in these sessions are limited and we do have a waitlist to participate.
- Contact us to be scheduled for the next available session. Email our shared mailbox employmentparticipation@hollandbloorview.ca or call x3328
Overview of our programs & services:

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<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth@Work</strong>&lt;br&gt;Next available Summer 2023</td>
<td>High school students ages 15-21 who want to build life skills, learn about their strengths and interests, and get work experience. Parent/caregiver must attend some meetings.</td>
<td>9 days over 3 weeks during the Summer</td>
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<td><strong>VolunteerABLE</strong>&lt;br&gt;Next available Winter or Spring 2023</td>
<td>High school or post-secondary students ages 15-26 who want to actively look for a volunteer position and/or paid job. Parent/caregiver member must attend all sessions.</td>
<td>6 Saturday sessions during the school year (Fall, Winter or Spring start dates)</td>
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<td><strong>Employment Action Coaching</strong>&lt;br&gt;Next available Fall 2023</td>
<td>High school or post-secondary students ages 15-26 who want to actively look for a volunteer position and/or paid job. Parent/caregiver member must attend all sessions.</td>
<td>Fall &amp; Winter start dates&lt;br&gt;Weekend group sessions and 1:1 meetings (~ 7 over 3-6 months)</td>
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<td><strong>Ready to Work</strong>&lt;br&gt;Applications for Summer 2023 - accepted only after participating in other programs</td>
<td>High school or post-secondary students who want a summer job may be eligible based on past participation. Information is sent to eligible youth in November or December each year.</td>
<td>Group and individual preparation + 8 weeks during July/August or 8+ weeks for post-secondary students</td>
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Notes:

1. Our programs are open to youth who are in high school and who have a physical and/or intellectual disability and/or an autism spectrum disorder. We also support youth who may have mental health challenges in addition to their physical or intellectual disability. During high school, if not already a client of Holland Bloorview, youth with disabilities listed above can join our experience programs.

2. Past clients of Holland Bloorview who are now in post-secondary education may be eligible for some programs and/or consultation services. If you are an eligible post-secondary student with employment goals, please contact us to arrange an appointment.

3. We provide attendant services in many of our group programs and job coaching but not 1:1 support for medical or behavioural needs. If needed, it is the participant’s responsibility to schedule and pay for their own 1:1 assistance. We request that 1:1 support be provided by a non-family member.

4. There are fees for most programs but financial assistance may be available.

These programs are part of the Transitions, Recreation and Life Skills services at Holland Bloorview and are linked to our organization’s priority to support transitions to adult life. All of our employment programs are supported by donations to the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation.