



Provide Alternative Pathways to a Diploma

Resources and Technical Assistance for Implementation

High School Completion Postsecondary Opportunities

Gateway to College* (Hennepin County and St. Paul)

Saint Paul College: www.spps.org/gatewaytocollege

Hennepin Technical College: www.hennepintech.edu/current/pages/904

Gateway to College programs serve students between 16 and 21 who are struggling to finish school, or who have left high school. Gateway to College students earn their high school diploma while earning college credits at the same time. For more information, about Saint Paul call 651-403-4222. For more information about Hennepin County call 763-488-2616.

Ready, Set, Go MN*

readyssetgo.state.mn.us/RSG/index.html

The Ready, Set, Go website was developed for educators, families, and students. This site provides resources for college and career readiness and accelerated course options in Minnesota, including:

- Tools for students to be successful in high school and prepare them for their postsecondary experiences
- Information for families on how to access these opportunities
- An interactive curriculum resource area for educators to support these goals

Adult Basic Education/GED* (Minnesota Department of Education)

education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/AdultEd

Adult Basic Education (ABE) is available statewide at no cost to adult learners. It is administered through the Minnesota Department of Education. The ABE curriculum umbrella includes Adult Diploma, GED, English as a Second Language (ESL or EL), Family Literacy, Basic Skills Enhancement, Workplace Literacy, and U.S. Citizenship/Civics. Programs are delivered primarily through public school districts, non-profit organizations, some technical colleges, and state and local correctional institutions. The website contains basic information about GED, age waiver form and instructions, and GED records request form.

Hubbs Center-Adult Basic Education* (St. Paul Public Schools)

www.spps.org/hubbs

The Hubbs Center offers a variety of classes onsite, in the community and via distance learning. Classes provide opportunities to prepare for post-secondary and/or employment while students improve their basic skills. Courses provided include ELL courses, advanced ELL, reading/writing and prep GED courses, GED courses, math courses, college preparation, occupational prep courses, distance learning, and adult diploma program. Classes for ADULTS at the Hubbs Center (1030 University Ave), Hub@Harding (1526 E 6th St) and sites throughout St. Paul.

West Broadway Education and Career Center Project (Minneapolis)

www.mpls.k12.mn.us/wbecc

The goal of this project is to meet diverse needs through programs like [Transition Plus](#), [Online Learning](#) and their [Adult Education Programs](#). The concept is to serve non-traditional learners with a focus on students who have left high school before earning their diploma or who are at risk for leaving high school. It will be a place for people to re-engage and move to their next step whether that is a job/career path, training or post-secondary education.

Minnesota Literacy Council (Greater Minnesota area)

mnliteracy.org

The Minnesota Literacy Council serves adults 17 years old or older and not enrolled in high school. Programs offered include English, GED, GED testing, math, computers and online classes, and job skills. You can find class descriptions here: www.mnliteracy.org/students/classes

Employment and Training

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Young Adult Program* (Greater Minnesota area)

www.mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/youth-programs/wioa-youth.jsp

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provides out-of-school youth between the ages of 16 and 24 and in-school youth between the ages of 14 and 21 with year-round employment and training services. Under this law passed in 2014, WIOA youth services emphasize services to out-of-school and disconnected youth, high school drop-out recovery and attainment of recognized postsecondary credentials. You can find the list of service providers on their website.

Minnesota Youthbuild* (Greater Minnesota area)

mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/find-a-job/targeted-services/youth-employment/youthbuild.jsp

The Youthbuild program provides specialized training for youth and young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are at risk of not completing or have not completed their high school education. Participants are trained in construction and other fields in the building trades, basic academic skills, and leadership. They also receive construction-based work experience. You can find the list of service providers on their website.

Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center* (St. Paul)

huberthumphrey.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx

Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training. Most students live on campus at Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps in St. Paul, but some nonresidential students are served as well.

Brooklyn* (Brooklyn Park, MN)

www.brooklynsallianceforyouth.org/203/BrookLynk

BrookLynk is a summer youth employment program that is responding to our community's needs. BrookLynk connects young people in the Brooklyns facing barriers to employment the skills, employment experience and professional social networks they need to develop their pathway to college and career. To help young people develop their skills and gain experiential employment experience, BrookLynk provides work readiness training and summer internships.

The Minnesota Youth Program* (Greater Minnesota Area)

mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/youth-programs/youth-program.jsp

The Minnesota Youth Program provides short-term, contextualized and active/individualized training services for at-risk youth, ages 14 to 24. Coordinated at the local level by the Workforce Investment Boards/Youth Councils, MYP eligibility criteria is more flexible (inclusive) than the WIA youth program. MYP permits stand-alone summer youth employment. MYP serves an extremely disadvantaged group of young men and women: participants have multiple challenges such as substance abuse, criminal records, mental health issues, and cognitive learning limitations, in addition to being poor. You can find the list of service providers on their website.

TRIO Educational Opportunity Centers* (Twin cities metro area)

minneapolis.edu/Student-Services/Support-Services/Trio-Programs/Educational-Opportunity-Center

Minnesota Education Opportunity Center EOC is a free educational outreach program helping eligible adults in Minnesota Metro Area pursue college education and/or training. EOC is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Title IV, TRIO programs. Through EOC you can: examine career options, choose a college or training program, get referrals to ESL/GED/ABE, get referrals to social services search for scholarships, resolve student loan defaults (for potential students only), attend workshops on college survival, school shopping, jobs of the future, financial aid, etc.

National Technical Assistance & Resources

Back on Track Initiative (Jobs for the Future)

www.jff.org/services/back-track-design-services

Jobs for the Future customizes services for partners and clients to reengage youth and young adults who are off track to graduation, or disconnected from school and work, and put them on a path to postsecondary credentials. They help communities identify off-track youth and young adults disconnected from school and work and develop a strategic plan to determine what pathway designs that will lead young people to college and career success. They also train community partners and staff on how to use data to guide improvements and innovations, and work to develop sustainable funding. MN as a regional initiative in Cass Lake called *Break Through*.

Pathways to Prosperity Network (Jobs for the Future)

www.jff.org/initiatives/pathways-prosperity-network

The Pathways to Prosperity Network—a collaboration of states, Jobs for the Future, and the Harvard Graduate School of Education—seeks to ensure that many more youth complete high school, attain postsecondary credentials with currency in the labor market, and get launched on careers while leaving open the prospect of further education. Pathways to Prosperity aims to ease the nation's skills gap by forming statewide systems of academic and career pathways for grades 9-14. These pathways integrate high school, community college, and work-based learning to propel students to diplomas, postsecondary credentials with high labor-market value, and family-supporting careers.

Jobs for America's Graduates

www.jag.org

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) is a state-based national non-profit organization dedicated to preventing dropouts among young people who are most at-risk. In more than three decades of operation, JAG has delivered consistent, compelling results – helping nearly three-quarters of a million young people stay in school through graduation, pursue postsecondary education and secure quality entry-level jobs leading to career advancement opportunities. The website includes information on the JAG model, its network and partners, and a resource library. Minnesota is one of 32 states in the JAG National Network with the state association based in the Minneapolis Public Schools.

Opportunity Youth Network (The Aspen Institute)

aspencommunitysolutions.org/the-fund/opportunity-youth-network

The Opportunity Youth Network (OYN) brings together national non-profits, businesses, philanthropy, and government – along with young leaders – to align efforts to achieve the collective goal of reengaging one million young people who are disconnected from education and employment pathways to success, often referred to as opportunity youth. In addition to monthly online member meetings and an annual conference, the Opportunity Youth Network's activities are driven by five action groups, each co-chaired by two OYN participants: Employer Engagement, Policy, Communications and Youth Organizing, Data and Metrics, and Supporting Communities.

National League of Cities (NLC) Reengagement Network

www.nlc.org/Reengagement

The NLC is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. Many large cities have young adults who have not finished school, and lack a clear pathway to do so. A growing number of cities have put specific strategies in place for these youth. These efforts include the establishment of one-stop reengagement centers or virtual equivalents that offer a range of services, including referrals to school completion options and support to re-enroll. As a network hub, NLC assists cities in exploring and pursuing reengagement policy and programming. Network participants come from reengagement program sponsors or host agencies including city departments, school districts, nonprofit organizations and community colleges.

For Youth with Disabilities

Vocational Rehabilitation Services*

(Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development; Greater Minnesota Area)

mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/youth

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) is Minnesota's individualized employment service for persons with significant disabilities. Every year VRS serves thousands of youth and young adults as they make their transition from school to work. VRS can begin working with an individual while in high school, and then continue supporting them through post-secondary training and then into a job to ensure success. Common services might include interest and ability testing, informational interviews or career exploration services. Other services include payment for materials and equipment, assistive technology, job placement, and job seeking skills training. Find out more about their services and the list of vocational rehabilitation counselors for high schools in Minnesota.

Minnesota's Disability Employment Initiative* (DEI; Greater Minnesota area)

www.mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/special/disability-employment-initiative

Minnesota's Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) - Partners for Youth, is an innovative partnership among key Minnesota youth-serving stakeholders focused on enhancing the outcomes of at-risk youth with disabilities, ages 14-24, served through Minnesota's youth workforce system. The goal is to link Minnesota youth with disabilities to gainful employment through individualized needs assessment and comprehensive services such as career planning, post-secondary career education, systems linkages, service coordination and other promising practices.

Reintegration Framework Systems Planning Toolkit

ici.umn.edu/evaluation/reintegrationtoolkit.htm

In 2006, the Evaluation Group at the Institute on Community Integration (ICI), University of Minnesota, developed a document on best practices and indicators of successful transition of children and youth. The Reintegration Framework Systems Planning Toolkit was developed to improve reintegration of youth with disabilities from separate sites and to improve their transition outcomes (e.g., decreased dropout, suspension, and expulsion rates and increased graduation rates).

Minnesota State Services for the Blind* (Greater Minnesota area)

mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/blind-visual-impaired

Minnesota State Services for the Blind (SSB) provides career planning services to youth with disabilities. Individuals who are blind, visually impaired or deafblind may apply for services as early as ninth (9th) grade. Transition services are a coordinated set of activities that promote movement from school to postsecondary activities and the achievement of an employment outcome identified in the Individual Plan for Employment (IPE).

For Youth in Foster Care or Homeless

The Minnesota Education and Training Voucher Program* (Greater Minnesota area)

mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/services/adolescent-services/programs-services/education-and-training-voucher.jsp

The Minnesota Education and Training Voucher (ETV) program provides money to youth who were in foster care up to age 18, or left foster care age 16 or older for adoption or transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to attend post-secondary education/vocational programs. Awards can be up to \$5,000 per school year to pay for tuition, fees, books, transportation, housing, and other school-related costs. It is designed to complement the student's own efforts to secure financial means to attend post-secondary school.

Support for Emancipation and Living Functionally (SELF) Program* (Minnesota Department of Human Services; Greater Minnesota area)

mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/services/adolescent-services/programs-services/self-program.jsp

The program offers services to youth ages 14 through 21, who are currently or were previously in foster care for at least 30 consecutive days after age 14 but are still working with a county or tribal social worker. The program helps these youth prepare for a successful transition to adulthood. SELF services will help youth meet their independent living plan goals. Services available can vary depending on the county where the youth lives. You can view the directory of county or tribal social worker on the website and find out what is available in your area.

Helping Youth Transition from Out-of-home Care to Adulthood - Best Practice Guide

edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6530-ENG

The Minnesota Department of Human Services has developed a resource rich, best practices guide to assist youth workers with helping youth transition from out-of-home care to adulthood. It contains information on life skills assessment, developing an independent living plan, teaching youth independent living skills, federal funds to support independent living plans, education and training vouchers for post-secondary education, how caregivers can help youth prepare for independent living, foster care benefits past age 18, etc.

***Minnesota based**

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