

Camp Advantage: What participants can expect

Camp Advantage is a two-week career information program for VR clients. It is designed to help increase their marketability and improve their employment outcomes by helping them to learn about an industry and themselves.

During this year's two-week program, participants will have an opportunity to learn about the healthcare industry and the types of jobs that are available in hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics. They will be introduced to medical terminology, the healthcare workplace culture, and the concept of patient-care. Participants will also have an opportunity to earn portable workplace credentials, such as CPR and safe-lifting certification.

In addition, VR clients will discover information about themselves, such as their strengths, job preferences, and potential barriers to their success. **A tentative outline follows:**

Week 1 –

Industry Awareness Training: Participants are introduced to classmates, the facility, the hospital environment, and the healthcare industry culture. They will tour the facility and hear from a variety of speakers from the hospital, who will talk with them about their own career path, their current department, and job opportunities in that area.

Self Awareness Training: During the first week, participants will complete a career assessment and meet with a career advisor. Through a combination of 1:1 and small group discussions, participants will begin to identify job preferences and barriers to employment.

Week 2 –

Industry Awareness Training: Participants will be given the opportunity to participate job shadowing experiences at the Project Search site. Potential sites could include CNA, Patient Care Tech, Food Service/Dietary, laundry, maintenance, activities, mailroom, custodial, office and more. At the end of the program, participants will be given the opportunity to submit a job application and participate in a mock interview.

Self Awareness Training: Customized training and coaching will be provided to suit the needs of the participants. Examples could include: identifying potential employers in their own geographic area, improving their job search materials, practicing interview skills, assistance with appropriate attire, assistance with processing job expectations, assistance with the procurement of accommodations, or connections with resources that could help them to maintain employment. A combination of large-group, small group, and 1:1 training will be used.

Location of training: Avera McKennan Hospital - Project Search site

Dates: Monday thru Thursday, for two weeks (June 12 – 15 and June 19 – 22).

Time: 9am – noon

Cost: Free for participants. Pre-registration is required.

Sponsorship: Camp Advantage is sponsored by SD-DHS, hosted by Avera, and coordinated by Teachwell Solutions.

For more information: Kristy Jackson, (605) 367-7680 x120, or Kristy.jackson@teachwell.org

