

DVR's Pre-Employment Transition Services



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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
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Kwinton Stewart



Diesel Technology Program

Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS)

- (1) Job exploration counseling
- (2) Work-based learning experiences
- (3) Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs at institutions of higher education
- (4) Workplace readiness training to develop social skills
- (5) Instruction in self-advocacy

Even if they never apply for DVR services

Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act

WIOA

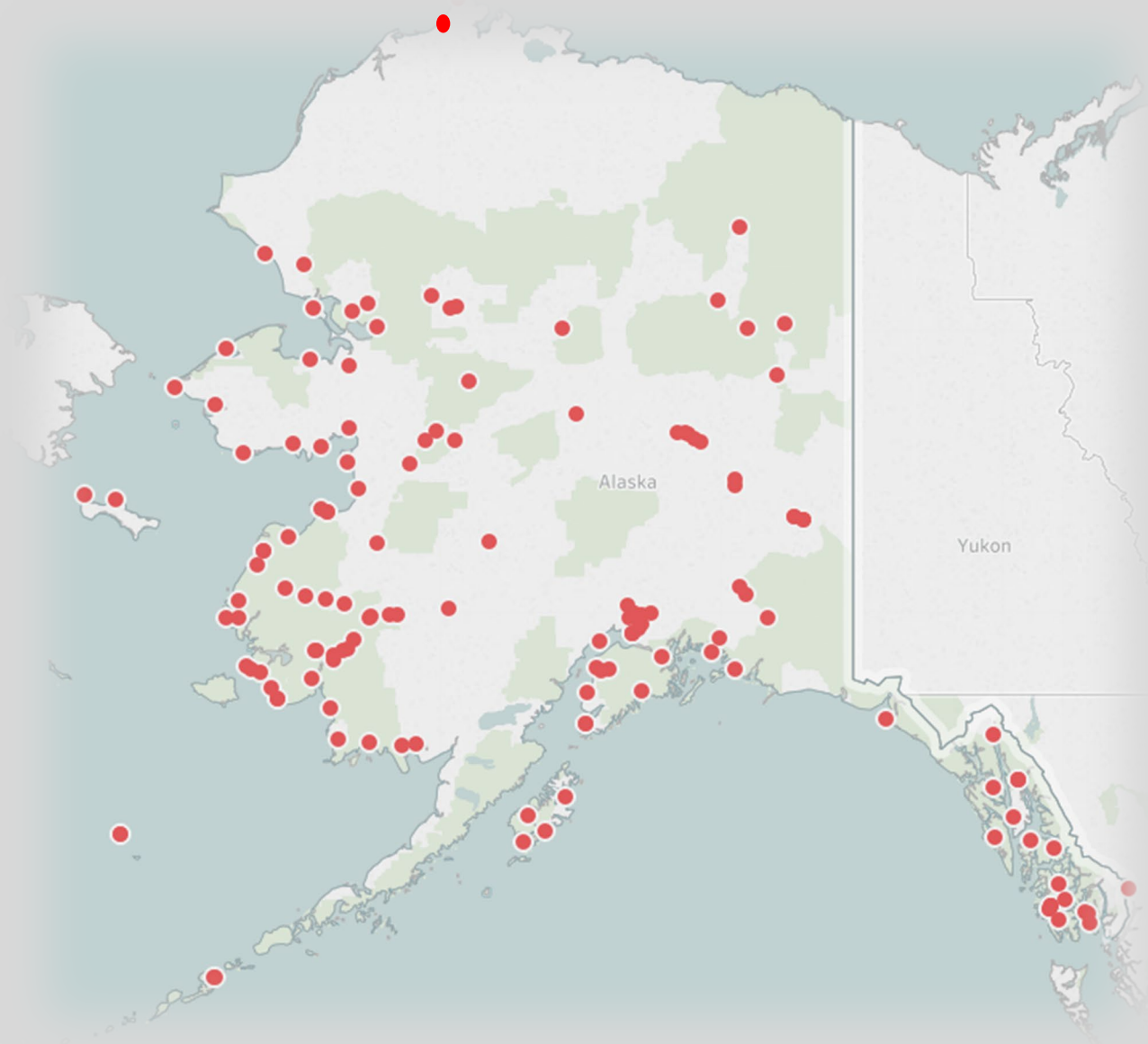
DVR must set aside 15% of its budget to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with a disability.

- 14 to 21 and still in School
- Have an IEP or 504 Plan

OR

- A student who is **Potentially eligible** for DVR services because of a physical, sensory, intellectual, mental health, or communication disability, not “identified” by the school district for special education or related services.

ex. could be students who have difficulties learning, or difficulties with attention or they are challenged in an emotional or behavioral way. This could also include kids who have been through treatment, involved in foster care or juvenile justice.

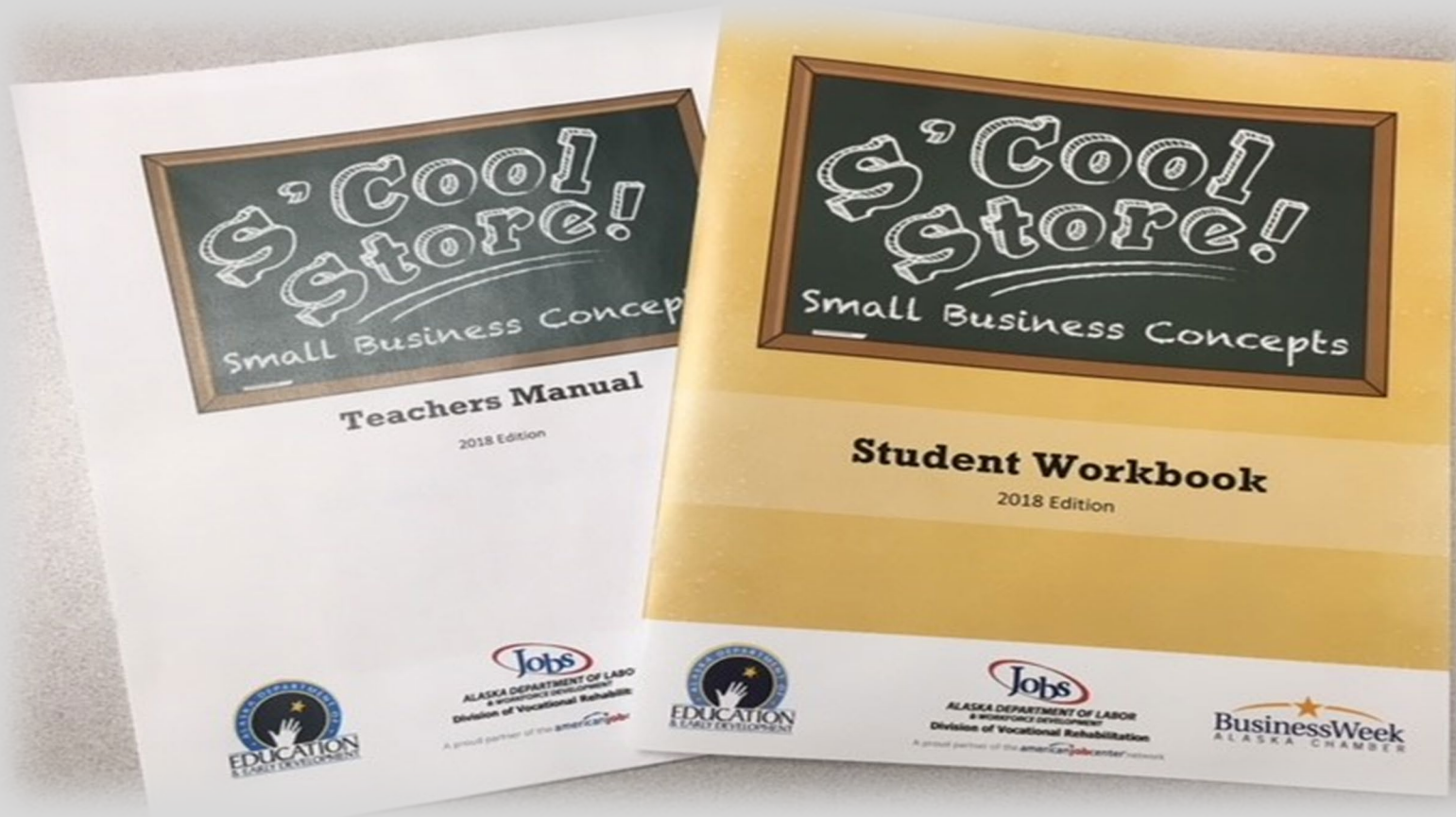




Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Small Business Concepts

"Not a school store"

S'Cool Store's 5 modules introduce students to entrepreneurship and small business concepts through developing a business plan and putting the plan into action.



Students, working together, have a chance to develop their very own small pop-up business while discovering their own interests and talents.

S'Cool Store teaches the 21st century skills employers are looking for:

- Critical thinking
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Financial literacy
- Leadership
- Social Skills



Two Ways to Get Paid for S'Cool Store

- ✓ **After School Activity**

 - \$50 Visa Card to open S'Cool Store Pop Up

 - \$1,500 stipend directly to teacher

- ✓ **In-School Activity**

 - \$1,500 is paid directly to the school to enhance and expand transition services for students with disabilities



After school workplace readiness training based on “Skills to Pay the Bills”

7 modules that cover the Soft Skills that every employer is looking for:

- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Teamwork
- ✓ Enthusiasm and Attitude
- ✓ Problem Solving

Plus: Self-advocacy for disability disclosure and workplace accommodations

JOBZ Club on “Roids”

LKSD JOBZ Club, Bethel





DVR can pay teachers to start a JOBZ Club in their school:

Teachers become “Teacher Vendors” for DVR.

Teachers are paid to facilitate JOBZ Club in their school as a pre-application Pre-ETS activity.

\$1,500 for a minimum of 5 students with a disability participating in a club.

Pizza Challenge: [Chefnak JOBZ Club Video](#)



Transition Camps



Alaska Transition
Outcomes Project

Transition Camps - 3 to 5 Day camp delivered by SERRC staff that combines engaging activities, transition resources, training and presentations tours from:

- Businesses
- Post-secondary Education
- Vocational Training Providers
- Unions
- Financial Institutions
- Local and State Government
- Job Centers





Over 180 students participated in Paid Work Experiences provided through school districts and community agencies in 12 urban and rural communities.

Participating School Districts include:

- Lower Kuskokwim School District (Bethel & Chefornak) – 25 students
- Cordova City School District – 12 students
- Unalaska City School District – 5 students

<http://www.labor.state.ak.us/dvr/transition/summer-work-program-descriptions-2019.pdf>

Research has shown that previous work experience was the most important factor for employment success, both in terms of job attainment and earnings.

- Florida State University



SUMMER Work Program is:

4 to 6 week program that combines 145 hr. paid work with 15 hr. paid Instruction.

DVR provides funding for staff to run the program (around \$1,800 - \$2,000 per student).

DVR provides wages for the students: $160 \text{ hr.} \times 9.89 = \$1,582.$



Transition Tools for Teachers Website

<http://labor.alaska.gov/dvr/transition.htm>

Google: TRANSITION AK

Duane G Mayes, MS CRC CDMS CVE

Division Director

Department of Labor & Workforce Development

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

duane.mayes@alaska.gov