



Butte County SELPA

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“Different. Not less.”

-Temple Grandin

January 20, 2021

To parents/guardians,

Your student is eligible to participate in WorkAbility, a work-based learning program focused on preparing students for life and work after high school. We offer paid internships to students with an individualized education program (IEP) each year, and though this year has been challenging, we are still offering those internships at limited locations this spring.

WorkAbility is completely voluntary, but is a way to experience different career fields and get paid while still in high school, and with a job developer that will customize the placement based on student interests and skill level. We are taking precautions this year, and limiting some of the choices for job sites, as well as providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to students wanting to participate. We have also eliminated the student special projects for our 14-15-year-old students, as these are done in a group setting, typically at an event, which have all been cancelled this year. Applications for WorkAbility can be requested from your student’s teacher, or by contacting our administrative assistant, Carla Geyer at cgeyer@bcoe.org with the student’s name and school. Applications are due no later than May 7, 2021; however, there are a limited number of internships and students will be served on a first come, first served basis.

There are few requirements for the WorkAbility program, but please review the following to determine if this program is a good fit for your student:

- Student must be able to obtain a work permit
- Student must be on an active IEP
- Student must be able to work independently
- Internships are outside of school hours, so students must have availability and transportation to their job site
- Students must be 16 or older for an internship (this year only)

I am including some resources for you and your student with this packet. Feel free to use them at your leisure. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss options or safety precautions, please contact me, Julie Romero, at juromero@bcoe.org or leave a voice message at 530-532-5670. Stay healthy and safe!

Julie Romero

Manager, Employment Services

“WHERE STUDENTS COME FIRST”