

## Case Study: Workforce Innovation & Vocational Rehabilitation Training

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) mandates that state vocational rehabilitation agencies allocate at least 15% of their federal funds toward Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). This initiative aims to equip students with disabilities with the necessary skills to transition into competitive, integrated employment. However, ensuring effective implementation across public schools, specialized institutions, and youth rehabilitation programs requires customized curriculum development, industry collaboration, and specialized coaching.

### The Solution:

Since 2014, LSI has served as a curriculum developer and in-person service provider for Utah's Pre-ETS program, working under the Utah Office of Rehabilitation (UOR) within the Department of Workforce Services. LSI has played a critical role in designing and delivering comprehensive workforce transition programs, including:

- Pre-ETS Curriculum Development & Delivery: Providing job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences, post-secondary counseling, workplace readiness training, and self-advocacy coaching to students in both public and specialized schools.
- Customized Transition Support: Expanding Pre-ETS services to support youth transitioning from the juvenile justice system and residential programs, adapting curricula to specific rehabilitation and vocational training needs.
- Industry-Aligned Apprenticeship Programs: Partnering with industries to secure grant funding and create workforce training.
- Early Exposure to Workforce Development: Implementing youth E2E (Education-to-Employment) programs, such as Discovery Children's Center and KidNation, to introduce young learners to workplace expectations and soft skills.
- Military & Industry Collaboration: Facilitating partnerships between industry, military contracts, and workforce development agencies to ensure training aligns with youth and employer needs.

### The Results:

- Sustained Pre-ETS service delivery since 2014, benefiting students across public and private education systems.
- Expanded reach beyond traditional Pre-ETS, adapting programs for juvenile justice rehabilitation and residential centers.
- Ensured alignment with WIOA and Department of Education standards, supporting state compliance and federal funding retention.