

Sunrise Speech and Language Services is happy to announce that we are ACCESS-VR providers of the following service (please note that all referrals must come from your ACCESS-VR coordinator. Enrollment in the ACCESS-VR program is required):

COACHING AND COMMUNICATION SUPPORTS FOR POST-SECONDARY

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT (Case Service Code 792X): Coaching and

Communication Supports is an adjunct service for individuals whose functional impact of disability requires assistance with communication, including, but not limited to individuals on the Autism Spectrum. This service includes weekly, and as needed individualized supports in the form of a Communication Support Specialist for participants in postsecondary education or engaged in competitive employment. Coaching and Communication Supports may also assist students for whom post-secondary education has been interrupted, intermittent or previously non-existent as a result of limitations imposed by their disability. The goal is for independent communication skills to be actively learned from the Communication Support Specialist so that competence can be achieved for gaining and sustaining meaningful employment outcomes. The Communication Support Specialist will support individuals with:

- Global Supports:

- o Social Communication - Development of spontaneous, functional communication, emotional expression and establish safe and meaningful relationships with peers and mentors; Inform person of rights and empower self-advocacy; Techniques to compensate for inflexible thinking, slower working memory, and impulse control.

- o Emotional Regulation - Development of the ability to maintain a well-regulated emotional state to cope with school and job stress, and to be most available for learning and interacting in class or the workplace.

- o Communication Advocacy - Ongoing communication with ACCESS-VR counselor regarding progress toward IPE goals: assessing and articulating to directly liaise on behalf of the individual's communication needs; Outlining the reasonable accommodations required for a communications disorder; Disclosing a disability at work and school.

- Communication Support at Post-Secondary Site:

- o Support person-centered coping strategies, problem solving skills, stress

management, and individual social awareness and recognition for steps toward action.

- o Coordinating pre-semester campus orientations, registration, residential setting facilitation, etc.

- o Understanding hidden curriculum and agendas, instructor temperaments, department hierarchies and organizational structure.

- Communication Support at Employment Site:

- o Support person-centered coping strategies, problem solving skills, stress management, and individual social awareness and recognition for steps toward action.

- o Coordinating pre-job site orientation, a review of human resources and associated forms, lunch and break time options, etc.

- o Understanding implicit versus explicit rules of the workplace; Support perspective-taking when speaking with colleagues and customers, use of small-talk and conventional gestures, taking turns in a conversation, and monitoring language during times of stress.