

IS A CAREER AS A JOB COACH RIGHT FOR YOU?



WHAT IS A JOB COACH?

A job coach works for a school, an intermediate unit, or a community rehabilitation provider (CRP) agency that helps students with disabilities find and keep jobs. They provide one-on-one support to help students perform their job tasks and become successful at work.

WHAT DOES A JOB COACH DO?

IN A SCHOOL, you could help students learn how to:

- Explore career options, practice interviewing, and fill out an application.
- Interact with co-workers, customers, and supervisors.
- Meet deadlines, follow a schedule, and complete tasks on time.
- Manage money, open a bank account, and pay bills.
- Complete job tasks, follow directions, and understand job responsibilities,

ON-THE-JOB, you could be responsible for:

- Matching a student to a job based on their strengths and skills.
- Building relationships with potential employers.
- Providing worksite safety.
- Setting up the workplace for the student.
- Assisting with transportation options.

YOU MIGHT ENJOY A CAREER AS A JOB COACH IF YOU LIKE:

- Helping others succeed.
- Working directly with people.
- Solving problems.
- Teaching and mentoring.
- Working in environments that bring new challenges and opportunities.
- Being part of a team that provides support.

VOICES FROM THE FIELD: MEET A CERTIFIED JOB COACH

“When we work together as a team, it's nice...to see not only the success for the client and what they're doing as an individual, but for the family as a whole. It's rewarding for everyone on the team.”

David Fox
Program Specialist
Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22

Click the names or scan the QR codes to watch the interviews.

[David Fox](#)
Program Specialist
Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22



[Jodie Yeager](#)
Work-Based Learning Coordinator
Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3



HOW TO BECOME A JOB COACH IN PENNSYLVANIA:

There are no specific educational requirements to become a Job Coach. If you are interested in this field, reach out to local intermediate units or school districts.

To help you get started:

Develop skills:

- Attend workshops on best practices for job coaching, disability awareness, communication strategies, and career development.
- Work with individuals with disabilities in employment settings.
- Build your understanding of disability laws and workplace accommodations.

Pursue education:

- Obtain a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Earn a [Certified Employment Support Professionals \(CESP\)](#) credential.
- Seek certification programs offered by the [Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators \(ACRE\)](#), or a program that focuses on supported employment and vocational rehabilitation.
- Pursue specialized training in supported employment services, such as Customized Employment or Discovery.



Gain experience:

- Volunteer at schools or organizations that serve students with disabilities.
- Shadow experienced job coaches.
- Explore professional networking opportunities through organizations such as:
 - [Association of People Supporting Employment First \(APSE\)](#)
 - [Certified Employment Support Professionals](#)
 - [Vocational Rehabilitation Networks](#)

