

2019-2020 Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Grants

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education annually awards Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) grants to local education agencies interested in establishing or expanding effective competitive integrated employment programming for youth with disabilities.

At A Glance

During the 2019-2020 school year...

567

Students participated in CIE grant activities

262

Students participated in some type of employment as a result of grant activities

174

Students involved in grant activities have open cases with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

61

Students have maintained the competitive integrated employment position obtained via the grant

36

Community agencies partnered with CIE grant recipients



2019-2020 CIE Grant recipients reported the following **SUCCESSES** and **BARRIERS** encountered through the CIE Grant Program:

Successes

- ✓ Additional work sites within the community
- ✓ Social networks created for students through employment
- ✓ Virtual programming options created and/or enhanced
- ✓ Paid work experiences for students
- ✓ Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) Lab integration into curriculum
- ✓ Board approval for job coaches beyond the scope of the CIE grant

Barriers

- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Staff coverage for students in the community
- ✓ Finding new employment sites
- ✓ Student scheduling issues
- ✓ Delays with hiring staff
- ✓ Participation in CBVI

The CIE Grant experience was certainly a highlight of my 28-year career of advocating for students who receive special education services. Our school teams need to ensure that the diploma our students are working towards has application for post-secondary success. The CIE Grant is a prime example of this overarching goal and focus that should be at the core of all educational discussions!"

Mrs. Tammy Adams
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