**Objective:**

Assist students in researching career goals, post-secondary educational options, and creating strategies for a smooth transition from high school to college or other post-secondary pathways.

**Module 1: Understanding Disability Services in High School vs. College**

**Goal:**
Students will gain an understanding of the differences between disability services available at the high school level and the support offered in post-secondary education, particularly college and trade schools.

**Key Topics:**

* Overview of high school disability services: 504 Plans, IEPs, accommodations.
* Transition to college: ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance, self-advocacy, and the process of registering for accommodations at college.
* Differences in service models between high school and college.

**Activities:**

* **Guest Speaker:** A representative from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) or Monroe Community College (MCC) Disability Services Office.
* **Field Trip:** Visit to the disability services office at RIT or MCC to see how services are provided on college campuses.

**Module 2: Exploring Post-Secondary Options**

**Goal:**
Introduce students to various post-secondary education and career paths such as trade schools, certificate programs, and college pathways.

**Key Topics:**

* Overview of college pathways: Community colleges, 4-year universities, and vocational programs.
* Trade schools and certificate programs: Benefits, career outcomes, and real-world applications.
* Exploring career clusters based on student interests (e.g., healthcare, IT, engineering, arts).

**Activities:**

* **Guest Speaker:** Career counselors from Monroe Community College (MCC) and RIT discussing program offerings.
* **Field Trip:** Tour of a local trade school, such as the Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC), to explore hands-on training programs.

**Module 3: Financial Assistance and Navigating FAFSA**

**Goal:**
Provide resources and practical knowledge on securing scholarships, financial aid, and navigating the FAFSA process.

**Key Topics:**

* Overview of financial aid types: Grants, loans, and scholarships.
* FAFSA: What it is, how to fill it out, and important deadlines.
* Local scholarships: Resources in the Rochester area, including those specific to students with disabilities.
* Budgeting and personal finance skills for students entering post-secondary education.

**Activities:**

* **Guest Speaker:** A financial aid officer from Monroe Community College or SUNY College at Brockport.
* **Workshop:** FAFSA application assistance session, either in-person or virtual.
* **Field Trip:** Visit to the financial aid office at MCC to get hands-on experience.

**Module 4: College Tours & Trade Program Exploration**

**Goal:**
Help students visualize their future by exploring campus environments and trade program facilities.

**Key Topics:**

* Importance of campus culture, student life, and academic offerings.
* What to look for in a trade school or college program: location, cost, student support, etc.

**Activities:**

* **College Tours:**
	+ Visit **Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)**, **SUNY Brockport**, and **Monroe Community College (MCC)**. Include tours of disability services, academic departments, and career centers.
	+ Explore local trade schools like the **Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC)**.
* **Career Exploration:**
	+ **Guest Speaker:** Representatives from different programs (e.g., HVAC, healthcare, IT) discussing career opportunities, earning potential, and industry trends.

**Module 5: Other Transition Services (Independent Living, Job Placement)**

**Goal:**
Discuss resources available to help students successfully transition into adulthood, focusing on independent living and job readiness.

**Key Topics:**

* Independent Living Programs: Services in Rochester that assist with life skills such as cooking, budgeting, and self-care.
* Job Placement Services: Vocational rehabilitation, internships, and apprenticeships available in Rochester.
* Social skills development for workplace readiness.

**Activities:**

* **Guest Speaker:** A representative from the **RochesterWorks!** Employment Services or **PathStone** to discuss job placement and vocational training.
* **Field Trip:** Visit to a local independent living program or a career center like **LDA Life and Learning Services**.

**Module 6: Creating Individualized Transition Plans**

**Goal:**
Develop personalized transition plans based on career aspirations, post-secondary education goals, and life skills.

**Key Topics:**

* Reviewing career interests and choosing the right post-secondary pathway.
* Developing long-term and short-term goals for education, career, and life skills.
* Planning for support services and accommodations in post-secondary settings.

**Activities:**

* **One-on-One Meetings:** Students will meet individually with a counselor to create their transition plan.
* **Peer Discussion:** Sharing of personal goals and plans in small groups, providing feedback and encouragement.

**Implementation Plan:**

1. **Start Date:**
2. **Duration:** 12 weeks, meeting once a week
3. **Field Trips/Guest Speakers:**
	* **Week 4:** Field trip to REOC
	* **Week 6:** Guest speaker on financial aid (MCC)
	* **Week 8:** Visit to RIT, MCC, and SUNY Brockport
	* **Week 10:** Career exploration session with local industry professionals
4. **Outcomes:**
	* Students will have an individualized transition plan including educational goals, career interests, and life skills development.
	* Students will gain exposure to various post-secondary options and understand the financial support available to them.
	* Students will feel more confident in their transition to post-secondary education and/or career training.