



NextStep to Employment Qualifying Criteria Checklist

Participants in the NextStep to Employment program have a range of abilities and disabilities. However, they must share the common goal of obtaining and maintaining employment. A participant must demonstrate a combination of motivation and interest in independence, as well as a willingness to participate in instruction, employment and clinical programs. The family must also commit to supporting the participant in their independent employment pursuits and allow them to benefit from natural consequences and important life lessons.

NextStep to Employment accepts individuals who meet the following criteria:

- Age 18 or older
- High school diploma or completion of a learning resource program
- Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Indicates interest in the program outside of parental influence

While we will be teaching employment skills and supporting our participants, they will not be supervised 100% of the time. Therefore, individuals must also meet the following criteria:

- Ability to communicate wants/needs and discomfort/illness
- Ability to move around the school campus/job site independently
 - Does not require one-on-one support for safety needs
 - Can be left alone without supervision (once oriented to the setting)
- Ability to use the bathroom independently
- Ability to maintain good personal hygiene throughout the day
- Ability to eat and use utensils independently
- Ability to participate and learn in a small group setting

Due to the flexible nature and setting of this program, the following criteria is also in place:

- No current or chronic history of addiction, substance abuse or uncontrolled, serious, mental illness
 - No inpatient/outpatient addiction/substance abuse treatment in the past 12 months
 - No inpatient/outpatient mental health treatment in the past 12 months
 - No refusal to take medication as prescribed
- No recent history (within the past 12 months) of severe aggression toward self (including self-injurious behaviors), others or property
 - No arrest/probation
 - No attempted suicide/self-harm
 - No property destruction
 - No physical aggression