15 Career Readiness Strategies For Parents Of High School Students With Special Needs

As a parent of a high school student with special needs, you want to do everything you can to help them succeed in life. One important way to do this is to help them prepare for their future career. Here are 15 strategies to help you get started:

1. Start early

The earlier you start preparing your child for their future career, the better. This will give them plenty of time to explore different options and develop the skills they need to be successful.



CAREER BOOK 3: 15 Career-readiness Strategies for Parents of High School Students with Special Needs (Career-readiness Series) by Jim Hasse

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2. Talk to your child about their interests and goals

What does your child like to do? What are they good at? What kind of career do they see themselves in? Talking to your child about their interests and goals will help you understand their strengths and weaknesses and develop a plan to help them reach their full potential.

3. Get involved in your child's education

Attend school events, meet with your child's teachers, and stay up-to-date on their progress. This will help you understand your child's needs and support their learning.

4. Explore different career options

There are many different career options available to students with special needs. Help your child explore different options by visiting career fairs, talking to professionals in different fields, and researching different careers online.

5. Develop your child's skills

Help your child develop the skills they need to be successful in their future career. This may include academic skills, such as reading, writing, and math, as well as soft skills, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

6. Provide support and encouragement

Your child will need your support and encouragement as they prepare for their future career. Let them know that you believe in them and that you are there to help them succeed.

7. Be an advocate for your child

If your child needs additional support or services, be an advocate for them. Talk to their teachers, school administrators, and other professionals to ensure that your child is getting the help they need.

8. Help your child transition to adulthood

As your child gets older, they will need to transition to adulthood. This may include finding a job, living independently, and managing their finances. Help your child prepare for this transition by teaching them the skills they need to be successful.

9. Set realistic expectations

It is important to set realistic expectations for your child. Not all students with special needs will be able to go to college or find a high-paying job. However, with the right support and preparation, they can achieve their full potential and live a fulfilling life.

10. Celebrate your child's successes

It is important to celebrate your child's successes, no matter how small. This will help them build confidence and stay motivated.

11. Get help when you need it

If you are struggling to help your child prepare for their future career, don't be afraid to get help. There are many resources available to parents of children with special needs.

12. Be patient and understanding

Preparing your child for their future career takes time and effort. Be patient and understanding with your child, and don't give up on them.

13. Believe in your child

The most important thing you can do for your child is to believe in them. Let them know that you believe in their ability to achieve their goals and that you will always be there for them.

14. Encourage your child to get involved in extracurricular activities

Extracurricular activities can help your child develop important skills, such as leadership, teamwork, and communication. They can also help your child build relationships with other students and adults.

15. Help your child develop a strong work ethic

A strong work ethic is essential for success in any career. Help your child develop a strong work ethic by encouraging them to set goals, work hard, and never give up.

Preparing your child for their future career is one of the most important things you can do as a parent. By following these strategies, you can help your child reach their full potential and live a fulfilling life.



Resources

- IEP Goals for Career Preparation
- Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities
- Transition Planning for Students with Special Needs

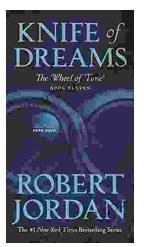


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