

Bloomington Area Career Center Contract Abstract

This contract has been entered into for the purpose of providing a drop-out prevention program for the students of the Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC). The contract begins July 1, 2019 and will terminate on June 30, 2020, but may be extended for two additional years. The funding amount is \$50,000.00. The enrollment goal is 20 students. Students will be Juniors and Seniors. To participate students must meet the eligibility criteria for in-school youth as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The BACC will provide an intensive education and employment skills program for at-risk students. The dropout prevention program will serve students, ages 16-24, that have been identified by the school district as at-risk, have a deficiency in literacy or numeracy, and are economically disadvantaged.

The BACC will admit students to the Career and Technical Education programs. Students will be recruited, screened and chosen for participation based on their math and reading deficits as indicated by their TABE assessment, low-income status, special education status, and other criteria that fall within the guidelines of the grant. Since these students will be attending the various BACC program in their chosen career field, the Program Coordinator will offer on-going employment support services. These services may also include but are not limited to resume writing, career assessments, career planning, career counseling, independent living activities, and life skills training. Students will develop additional "soft skills" and employability skills to complement the technical skills that they will obtain as a part of their program curriculum.

Students will also have the opportunity to earn state licensure or industry recognized certifications based on the program they are enrolled in. The available certifications include but are not limited to: Certified Nursing Assistant, OSHA 10 Safety Certification, Illinois Department of Public Health Food Handler and Sanitation Manager Certification, First Responder Certification, Adobe Software Certifications, HIPAA Certification, CPR and AED Certification, EMR Certification and EMT Basic Certification.

BACC offers leadership and mentoring opportunities for these students by becoming members of Leadership Club and BACC's chapter of SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA is a non-profit organization that provides student leadership and mentoring for all of its student members. By being a member of this organization, students will serve as mentors to their team members as assigned by their advisor. Students in this organization will also serve as mentors to middle school students that attend a Career & Technical Education Expo that is sponsored by the BACC and held annually for all local 8th grade students that are in attendance.

At least 50 percent of the students in the program will be placed in Work Experience or On-the-Job Training sponsored by Career Link. Students can participate in these programs either on part time or full time bases throughout the school year and/or summer. The student will receive assistance with resume writing, interviewing skills, and ongoing support services while taking part of these programs.