



Using Empowerment and Customer Self-Concept to Increase Opportunities for Competitive, Integrated Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities

What is the level of evidence?

This practice was identified by Rehabilitation Research & Training Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Vocational Rehabilitation (RRTC-EBP VR), and has been labeled by NTACT as a Promising Practice. *More information on NTACT's process for identifying effective practices is available here: [NTACT's Effective Practices](#).*

What is the practice?

This practice includes explicit consumer empowerment training or service philosophies that promote consumer-directed actions and choices. Increased consumer involvement and consumer satisfaction and employment outcomes are associated with this practice.

Where is the best place to find out how to do this practice?

Resources will be available on steps to implement this practice at <http://research2vrpractice.org/evidence-based-practice/>.

Additionally, resources for promoting student self-determination skills are available at NTACT's website:

- <http://www.transitionta.org/evidencepractices>, by selecting Employment, Student Development – Self-Determination Skills
- <http://www.transitionta.org/researchpractices>, by selecting Employment, Student Focused Planning – Student Participation
- <http://www.transitionta.org/transitionplanning>, by selecting Additional Resources for Students and Professionals and the Self-Determination and Youth Leadership Development Resources

You may also correspond with the RRTC-EBP-VR <http://research2vrpractice.org/contact/> to request more detailed information from the original author regarding implementation of this practice.

References used to establish this evidence base:

Fleming, A. R., Del Valle, R., Kim, M., & Leahy, M. J. (2013). Best practice model of effective vocational rehabilitation service delivery in the public rehabilitation program: A review and synthesis of the empirical literature. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin, 56*, 146-159.

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