

Program Information

Three Community Transition Centers (880 First Street, 1117 Third Street, and 1017 E. Wesley) serve students from all over Muskegon County. The Centers are located in Muskegon, close to businesses, recreational facilities, community adult service providers, and public transportation so that participants can access these sites for learning. Learning sites in other parts of the community are accessed using MATS buses, taxis, and other transportation.

The instructional staff provides the necessary supervision and appropriate training to meet the individual learning needs of each student. Due to staffing levels, participants may travel within the community independently and engage in learning experiences without direct staff supervision.

Participants are transported in morning (8:00-8:15 AM) by local school districts, public transportation, or by the student's family to the transition center or to their individual work site. Generally a half-day is involved in work experience, individualized vocational training, or supported employment activities at businesses located in Muskegon. The MAISD work-study coordinator facilitates the work skills training activities.

Learning experiences involving daily living skills, mobility, or recreation are then arranged around work activities. Participants utilized public transportation or contracted Pioneer Resources transportation to travel to community training sites. The instructor, or instructional assistants facilitate these learning activities. Lunches are usually prepared by the participant using items provided by Pioneer Resources or that are purchased from local grocery stores. Occasionally, the participants will eat lunch at local restaurant. Participants leave the Transition Center between 2:30-2:45 PM on schools buses or other transportation.

The Community Transition Program focuses on each participant as an individual. Each person brings different skills and needs with them; therefore, the goals are unique for him or her. The participants provide input into what they learn. Along with parents, guardian, community agencies, and program personnel, the student identifies their expected transition outcomes.