



**State School
for the Blind**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Dr. Richard A. Ross, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Cynthia M. Johnson, Superintendent, Ohio State School for the Blind



April 3, 2014

To Potential Participants of the OSSB/FTS Summer Work and Learn Program:

The Ohio State School for the Blind (OSSB) and Functional Training Services (FTS) have partnered to provide a summer residential and educational program for young adults, ages 18-24, who are blind or visually impaired. This five week program which combines independent living and work experience for young adults will operate from June 23, 2014, through July 25, 2014.

During the first week of the program, participants will be: working with their job coaches in the required curriculum "Skills to Pay the Bills", as well as assessed in orientation and mobility skills to and from the worksite and surrounding community; assessed in independent living skills, making budgets and shopping for food; reviewing use of technology; beginning online career exploration; learning the campus; assessed in other activities related to independent living. This time will also provide OSSB and FTS staff the opportunity to evaluate each participant's ability to proceed to the second phase of the program which will require working in the community.

During the next four weeks of the program, participants will work in the community for approximately five hours a day, Monday through Thursday. In the evenings and Fridays, participants will continue technology exploration and training as well as career and social skills development. Participants will also be responsible for preparing meals and necessary items for the next work day, as well as learn and practice other activities of daily living. Weekends will include recreation and leisure activities. Participants are required to spend at least 2 of the 4 weekends at OSSB to fully participate in a wide variety of recreation skills and experiences/adventures.

Attached are two documents:

1. Summer 2014 Work and Learn Program Application Form
2. Summer 2014 Work and Learn Program Information Questionnaire

Please complete both documents and send them to your BSVI/VRP3 counselor, then to OSSB no later than May 9, 2014. If you do not currently attend OSSB, we will call to set up an interview so that we can find the best job match for your work experience. If you have questions, please contact Ann Pilewskie at 614-468-8894 or apilewskie@ossb.oh.gov. Hope to see you this summer!

Sincerely,

Ann Pilewskie, Transition Coordinator
OSSB