

Explorer Entrance Criteria

Explorer is an extended version of the original PathFinder vocational training program to provide training over four 5-month sessions (approximately 80 weeks), instead of a single 4-month session. Vocational training may not be suitable for all. Trainees must have an interest in employment, an IPP goal for vocational training, be able to attend to the content and activities with minimal reminders, and be willing to participate in their chosen activities. In addition the following criteria must be met:

1. SELF-CARE

Participants must be independent in their self-care skills, and be able to communicate their basic needs. If they are unable to independently tend to their self-care or to communicate their basic needs, but meet all other criteria, they must be accompanied by a consumer-provided personal care attendant if they wish to participate in the PathFinder Explorer training program. This must be discussed with the Explorer staff during the interest interview.

2. PHYSICAL, MEDICAL &/or MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

Beacons programs offer assistive technology and adapted tools to support those with intellectual and physical disabilities, but does not offer medical care or medical assistance onsite for those with medical or mental health challenges. Individuals with medical or mental health needs that require the support of a personal care attendant or who may at times require 1:1 support because of medical or other issues may attend if accompanied by a trained and self-provided personal care attendant authorized to tend to the medical and other needs of the consumer. This must be discussed with the Explorer staff during the interest interview.

Please note that our instructors do not administer medications, and Beacons does not have emergency response teams in place. If a consumer wishes to provide his/her/their own trained support, please contact us to discuss.

3. BEHAVIORAL CHARACTERISTICS

Consumers with a history of physical aggression resulting in or risking physical injury to others, self-injurious behaviors, uncontrollable cursing, bullying or demeaning behaviors towards others, damage to property, elopement, smearing of feces, displays of inappropriate sexual behavior, defiance and/or behaviors that impede the learning of self or others, or other disruptive or maladaptive behaviors, are not eligible for the Explorer program. If a consumer does not disclose these or exhibits these during a program, the consumer may be exited from the program for not meeting the entrance criteria and for the failure to disclose this information.

4. TRANSPORTATION

Consumers must provide their own transportation to and from the program. For possible transportation options other than Lyft, Uber or the bus, please consider:

- a. Carpooling,
- b. the NCTD Lift program (gonctd.com/services/lift-paratransit/),
- c. the Ride FACT program (factsd.org),
- d. Carlsbad Connector program (starting 8/19/19) (<https://www.carlsbadconnector.com>),
- e. the WAZE carpool organizer, and/or
- f. the SDRC transportation vendorization program (<http://sdr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/TransportationGuideEnglish.pdf>).