COLORADO Department of Education

SWAP School to Work Alliance Program

COLORADO Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Department of Labor and Employment

The School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) is a collaborative initiative between the Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and local school districts/Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and is supported by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). SWAP provides case management and direct services to young adults with disabilities who:

- Are potentially eligible, applicants of or are eligible to receive DVR services (meeting disability documentation requirements and able to benefit from the program).
- Have mild to moderate needs in employment.
- Need support in developing vocational awareness, career exploration, and experiencing career and employment opportunities to become competitively employed and to achieve successful outcomes.

Purpose of SWAP:

The purpose of SWAP is to assist young adults in making the transition from school to employment, provide successful employment outcomes, increase community linkages, and new patterns of service for young adults within all categories of disabilities. The program's goals include:

- Building on current transition planning efforts.
- Creating a career pathway through pre-employment transition services.
- Filling the case management gap for the targeted population.
- Supporting collaboration between DVR and local school districts/BOCES.

SWAP is intended to provide employment-related assistance to young adults with disabilities, who are experiencing mild to moderate barriers to employment. Disabilities can include but are not limited to physical, emotional, or learning disabilities. SWAP provides opportunities for young adults to practice and improve workplace skills, consider their career interests, and obtain real world work experience that will lead to competitive, integrated employment in today's high demand industries.

SWAP services may include:

Young adults potentially eligible or eligible for services provided through DVR, qualify to receive evaluation and diagnostic services, vocational counseling and guidance, physical and mental restoration services, and training. Additionally, SWAP may provide services such as:

- Pre-employment transition services
- Career exploration
- Career development
- Employment-related instruction
- Job development / placement
- Case management
- One year of follow-up

▪ Year-round community-based services

SWAP may provide services when appropriate to:

▪ Potentially eligible, applicants of or eligible for DVR services, and

▪ Young adults between the ages of 15-24, and

▪ Have mild to moderate needs in employment, and

▪ Typically living within the boundaries of a school district/BOCES participating in the SWAP program. Young adults who do not live in a participating district/BOCES may access vocational rehabilitation services directly through DVR.

Young Adults could be:

▪ In-School: ▪ Out-of-School

o Person with a disability under 504 of the o Graduated or aged out Americans with Disability Act o Drop-out or at risk of dropping out o Receiving special education services o Under or unemployed

o Suspected or known disability not under

any other category

SWAP would not be appropriate for:

▪ Middle school aged students or younger

▪ Young adults with significant needs who will require extensive services or currently are eligible for supported employment services

▪ Young adults with on-going legal problems that make placement in a work setting difficult

Referrals:

The appropriate time for a referral to DVR/SWAP is when a young adult's focus includes employment, and they are available for services. To make a referral contact SWAP in the community in which the young adult lives or your local DVR office. Please look at the DVR website to locate the nearest office

Funding and program support:

Funding of a SWAP site occurs when schools provide state or local funds to DVR, which are then matched with federal funds. These funds are used to pay for staff and other expenses related to SWAP. Additionally, DVR pays the cost of case services for young adults assisted by the program. Participation in SWAP is optional by local districts/BOCES.

The Colorado Department of Education, through an interagency agreement with DVR, provides joint training and technical assistance, product development and dissemination, conflict resolution assistance, and program monitoring to local SWAP sites.

Colorado Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services Unit

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

2026-2027 SWAP Sites

School District/BOCES Phone Numbers

District/BOCES	Phone number
Academy 20	719-234-1377
Adams 12	720-972-4043
Adams 14	720-783-9053
Aurora	720-271-2874
Blue Sky BOCES	720-249-8292
Boulder	720-561-5310
Canon City	719-920-5295
Centennial BOCES	970-352-7404
Centennial BOCES - Fort Morgan	970-867-8297
Delta	970-874-7607
Denver	720-387-6185
Douglas County	720-537-9318
Eagle County	970-328-6321
Englewood/Sheridan	303-981-3345
Estes Park	970-586-5321
Falcon 49	719-675-9319
Ft. Lupton/Keenesburg	303-598-1601
Greeley 6	970-348-1080
Jefferson County	303-982-3388

District/BOCES	Phone number
Johnstown/Milliken	970-803-8443
Littleton	303-347-4984
Mapleton	720-445-5954
Mesa County	970-254-6011
Moffat County	970-756-7927
Montrose	970-209-1493
Mountain BOCES	719-398-3530
Northeast BOCES	970-521-2771
Northwest BOCES	970-896-6713
Pikes Peak BOCES	719-238-3947
Poudre	970-685-7544
Rio Blanco BOCES	970-629-5333
San Juan BOCES	970-247-3261
San Luis Valley BOCES	719-588-5015
Summit County	970-389-9385
St. Vrain	303-702-7894
Thompson	970-613-6444
Westminster	303-487-2897
Windsor/Severance	970-686-8078
Woodland Park	719-491-3436

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