

The PEAK Program

The **Pathways to Employment and Applied Knowledge** (PEAK) Program is a transition program designed for senior secondary school students. It serves as a bridge from school to adult life options. The program is dedicated to supporting students to become independent, responsible and contributing members of the community.



The Pathways to Employment and Applied Knowledge (PEAK) Program



Referral Process

Student candidates are referred by classroom teachers in conjunction with their Work Experience Transition Coordinator. A student profile must be completed by the teacher and forwarded to the Student Services Coordinator no later than October 31 for the following school year. Selected students and their parents/caregivers may be offered an interview. Successful candidates will be notified prior to the student's IPRC.

Locations

PEAK East - Unionville High School

PEAK West - Thornhill Secondary School

PEAK Central - Richmond Green Secondary School

PEAK North - Huron Heights Secondary School



PEAK Program Candidates are Students...

- Participating in non-credit programs
- Identified with an Intellectual Disability or Autism
- Who model a positive attitude, strong teamwork and self-management skills
- Attending school on a regular basis
- Who have demonstrated successful work experience
- Entering the last two years of secondary school, able to work and transit independently
- Who are available to work four hours per day and four or five days a week
- Preparing for paid employment, volunteer work, vocational programs or community participation



The Program

Goals

- To prepare students to effectively transition from secondary school to adult life options
- To improve communication, social, work and self-advocacy skills
- To develop decision-making skills including problem-solving and goal-setting
- To encourage a well-balanced and healthy lifestyle

PEAK empowers students to maximize their full potential, independence and personal development.

In-Class Component

PEAK students learn a variety of skills for everyday living focusing on:

- Personal life management
- Social skills
- Critical thinking
- Community-based education

Community Work Placement

PEAK presents students with independent work experience opportunities to help them develop the tools and strategies necessary for potential employment and lifelong success.



Transition Planning

PEAK prepares students for adult options including:

- College Vocational Program (CVP) and/or Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) College programs
- Day Programs
- Employment or Volunteer Opportunities