Youth Transition Exploration Demonstration (YTED) FAQs

❓ What is YTED?

YTED is a program from the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) that helps young people with disabilities explore careers, build skills, and get ready for work. Everyone who joins gets OVR services. Some youth will also get *extra career services* so researchers can learn what works best.

👥 Who can join?

You can join if you:

- Are **16–24 years old**
- Have a **disability that qualifies for OVR services**
- Live in **Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, or Montgomery County**
- Have **not signed an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)** with OVR*

Youth with the Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services (BBVS) may still join if they haven't gotten employment services yet.

🌟 Why should I join?

- **Career help:** Work with a counselor trained to support youth your age
- **Skill-building:** Learn about jobs, training programs, and career paths
- **$50 gift card:** Get a Visa gift card after taking a short survey one year after joining
- **Make a difference:** Help improve services for other youth with disabilities

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🛠️ What services could I get?

If you're selected for extra YTED services, you may:

- Explore careers and set goals
- Get long-term job training
- Connect with employers and work experiences
- Receive benefits counseling if you get Social Security

How do I sign up?

- Tell your OVR counselor you'd like to sign up for YTED
- Your counselor will help you fill out a consent form, release form, and short survey
- If you're under 18, your parent/guardian must also sign and show proof of guardianship

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What happens after I join?

- You'll be randomly placed into one of two groups:
  - **Group A:** Regular OVR services
  - **Group B:** Regular OVR services **plus extra YTED services**
- Everyone has an equal chance of being in either group

Will my information be safe?

Yes. Your personal information will be protected. When you take YTED surveys, you can skip any questions you don't want to answer.

How long does YTED last?

About one year after you join.

Who can I contact with questions?

Talk to your OVR counselor. If you can't reach your counselor, you can also call your local OVR office:

- **Philadelphia BVRS:** (215) 560-1900
- **Norristown BVRS:** (484) 250-4340
- **Philadelphia BBVS:** (215) 560-5700

👉 **Ask about YTED when you meet with your OVR counselor!**