



# Community Connections Career Partnership – Ohio

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. WHAT IS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS CAREER PARTNERSHIP – OHIO?

Community Connections Career Partnership – Ohio, also referred to as C3P(O), is a program that provides students in their junior and senior years of high school an opportunity to learn about the field of direct support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through in-class training, on-site internships, and the opportunity to earn industry credentials.

### 2. HOW IS C3P(O) IMPLEMENTED?

Students spend three hours each school day in the C3P(O) program. One day per week is spent at the Provider Host's site in a classroom setting where students learn about the field of direct support utilizing the *DSPaths* curriculum. During the other four days, students travel to area provider sites where they gain hands-on experience working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

### 3. WHAT IS A PROVIDER HOST?

We have found that students engage more proactively and productively when the C3P(O) program is taken off of school grounds; therefore, we contract with a local provider to be a Host site. This provider is a Licensee of the Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals and their staff members are certified to teach the *DSPaths* curriculum.

### 4. WHAT IS THE *DSPaths* CURRICULUM?

*DSPaths* is a national-award winning curriculum that teaches the students about the field of direct of support. During their junior year in high school, students work toward earning the "Certificate of Initial Proficiency" (CIP) and, during their senior year, the

“Certificate of Advanced Proficiency” (CAP). Each credential consists of 20 3-hour modules. Students must complete all 20 modules, complete four work samples, and develop a portfolio that demonstrates their ability in a variety of DSP competency areas. A passing grade on the portfolio is necessary for the student to receive the credential.

**5. ARE THE CREDENTIALS RECOGNIZED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION?**

Yes. The Certificate of Initial Proficiency (CIP) and Certificate of Advanced Proficiency (CAP) are both listed on the Ohio Department of Education’s “List of Industry Recognized Credentials” in the Health category. CIP has a point value of 4 and CAP has a point value of 6. When combined with CPR/First Aid (1 point) and the OSHA 10-Hour Training (1 point), students earn the required 12 points to graduate utilizing an alternative pathway during their junior and senior years of high school.

**6. WHAT ELSE DO STUDENTS NEED TO BE IN THE C3P(O) PROGRAM?**

Students must pass a BCII background check and, if the provider requires it, have a two-step TB test.

**7. WILL STUDENTS BE ABLE TO FIND EMPLOYMENT FOLLOWING GRADUATION?**

Direct Support Professionals (DSP’s) are in high demand. In fact, it is the number one job in demand in the state of Ohio. Providers of services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities will benefit from having a pool of competent, qualified DSP’s.

**8. HOW DO I LEARN MORE ABOUT C3P(O)?**

To learn more about this exciting, innovative program, contact:

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