

C-Tran
Community Transition Program 2013-2014 General Description
Lawrence Public Schools

Overview

C-Tran is a community-based school program designed to assist in the transition from school to adult life. It is one option through the Lawrence Public Schools where students have the opportunity to work on the skills necessary for adult life. C-Tran began in 1997 as a collaborative effort among students, parents, the Lawrence school district and adult service providers. Students eligible for C-Tran have met the minimum requirements for graduation but have continuing transition needs. They have participated in social graduation (or commencement), but have not completed the transition goals in their IEPs. This allows them to maintain their student status, but also experience graduation at the age appropriate time. Students who attend C-Tran have demonstrated needs in in at least two of the following areas:

- Daily living skills
- Employment skills, and/or
- Functional academics.

Location

C-Tran is located at the Community Connections Center, 2600 W. 25th Street, Lawrence, KS 66047. The number is (785) 330-4905. If your child will be absent please call this number to report the absence.

Transportation:

Transportation is provided through First Student. If you plan to use transportation and have not been contacted by a staff at First Student to coordinate pickup times and locations by the week prior to school starting please contact Darlene Withers at 841-3594 or email her at Darlene.Withers@firstgroup.com. If you have moved over the summer please contact Darlene as well. If your child is sick or will not need transportation you or your child is responsible to cancel transportation. Calling C-Tran to report an absence will not cancel transportation. If your child has 3 missed bus rides without cancellation your transportation services *may* be cancelled. You will have to call First Student to reinstate services.

C-Tran Schedule and Hours of Operation

C-Tran follows the Lawrence Public School's high school schedule. The C-Tran days begin at 8:00 and end Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 2:30. C-Tran has early release at 1:00 on Wednesdays to allow for Lawrence's early release to allow staff collaboration and professional development. The Lawrence Public School 2013-2014 school calendar can be located at <http://www.usd497.org/>

Enrollment

C-Tran students continue to enroll at their high school and pay secondary school fees at that school. C-Tran does not have an administrative office for enrollment or fee collection. The fees, although paid at the high school are designated for the C-Tran program. Fee waivers may be available for students who meet income guidelines. A student, who is 18 or older and has his /her own source of income, may be eligible for the fee waiver. Please check with the high school financial office at the student's high school for further information.

C-Tran Costs

In addition to school fees, there are expenses associated with the community based instruction that are important to the C-Tran program. Students may spend up to \$35 per week. These funds are budgeted to purchase groceries for meal preparation, participate in recreational activities, eat out in a restaurant or make other personal purchases. Each student's money is stored separately and securely. Students are not allowed to borrow or lend money to each other. Each transaction is recorded and receipts stored to show the purchases. A parent may view the expenditures upon request.

By having their own money, students learn to use the currency, budget, shop wisely and use community resources. The program tries to keep expenses low by participating in free or low cost activities in the community when possible. Students also have the option of opting out of community activities that cost money. If the financial obligations associated with C-Tran pose a barrier to participation in C-Tran please discuss this need with the high school Transition Coordinators, Misti Copas-Thomas at LHS or Lorna Larson at Free State.

Students enrolled at C-Tran who meet income guidelines may be eligible for free or reduced lunches. Please check with the high school financial office at the student's high school for further information.

Work Schedules:

Students at C-Tran will work in either community jobs or jobs located at C-Tran. These jobs will allow the students to gain valuable work experience and some will be paid positions. Each young adult will be assigned a job coach for his or her job.

C-Tran Supplies:

Students will be assigned a locker to store personal belongings. The C-Tran program activities are designed to increase personal responsibility for time management, scheduling, communicating with others, public transportation, budgeting and problem solving. We find that these materials assist the young adults. If you have questions about any of these items please feel free to contact me to discuss them further. These are not required for participation at C-Tran.

- Watch or cell phone with clock
- Purse, billfold, and/or backpack
- Umbrella, rain poncho, light jacket or sweatshirt for when the weather changes
- Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, hair brush or comb, deodorant, and if need feminine hygiene items, razor/shaver)
- Cell phone, iPod touch, pager or some means of communication
- An extra change of clothes

C-Tran Objectives

Students are expected to develop independent living skills throughout the C-Tran day. They share in the chores associated with maintaining an apartment and living in an independent or group situation. Families are encouraged to have their young adults take on similar responsibilities at home. Specific objectives addressed by the program include:

- Personal finances (money management, planning/budgeting, being responsible for own money/keeping it safe, etc.)
- Planning/Organizing/Scheduling (applied time concepts, time management, scheduling/canceling appointments, making transitions from one environment into the next without a struggle, etc.)
- Grooming/Self-Care (starting each day with clean hair and body, disbursement of medication when appropriate, maintaining personal identification, etc.)
- Household Management (food preparation, reading recipes, checking for spoilage, grocery shopping within a budget, time management, etc.)
- Social Skills Awareness (resolving relationship issues, appropriate greetings, anger management, initiating and maintain conversations, etc.)
- Community Involvement (self advocacy, problem-solving, ordering in a restaurant, staying within budget, leisure and recreational activities, using transportation systems, etc.)
- Health and Safety Practices (healthy eating, meal planning, what to do in case of an emergency, stranger danger, basic safety procedures, etc.)
- Career Development (interviewing and applying for jobs, appropriate grooming for employment, problem solving on the job, collaborating with adult services for job placement, etc.)

C-Tran Staff

C-Tran Teachers	Gary Denham, Robert Rhodes, Donna Wickham 330-4905
C-Tran Transition Specialist	Gretchen Lister 785-766-9510
Special Education District Liaisons	Miko Kookan, Lori Stithem 832-5000
Transition Coordinator:	Misti Copas-Thomas (LHS) 832-5050 Lorna Larson (Freestate) 832-6050
Work Experience Coordinators	Janelle Whistler (LHS) 832-5050 Patrick Dipman (Freestate) 832-6050