Minnesota State Services for the Blind

Work Based Learning Opportunity

PEER EDUCATOR POSITION

**Minnesota State Services for the Blind is looking for students to join our enthusiastic, dynamic team of staff to assist in providing Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) programming. This is a work-based learning experience for up to 120 hours.**

**Core Responsibilities:**

**Mentoring/Instruction:**

* Applies knowledge of program content and practices as well as blindness skills while providing instruction and modeling to students.
* Applies blindness and problem solving skills as related to independent living and academic success.
* Supports student experiential activities.
* Fosters independence by providing supportive encouragement (mentoring) and instruction in self-advocacy to students individually, in small groups, or in a large group setting.
* Initiates outreach for student engagement
* Facilitates, and leads group activities to teach advocacy skills and problem solving.
* Participates in and provides instruction during selected aspects of student programs, including Blind & Socially Savvy, Mock Interviews, and other student activities.

**Communication**:

* Reports observations to supervisor regarding students’ existing skills, present needs, and any instructional recommendations and strategies.
* Communicates findings and recommendations both orally and in written format, as they relate to students’ goals.

**Skills and abilities needed to successfully perform the work:**

* Knowledge of blindness skills used in academic, social and employment settings.
* Knowledge of basic acceptable behavior as it relates to students.
* Ability to secure the confidence, respect, and cooperation of students.
* Ability to perceive, observe, and address problems as they arise.
* Ability to provide guidance to students as needed to access and participate in activities.
* Displays a high level of initiative and leadership.
* Demonstrated strong oral and writ ten communication skills.
* Demonstrates self-motivation, maturity, and creativity.

**Education and Experience**

* High School and college students are welcome to apply. Prefer applicants who have previously participated in programs through Minnesota State Services for the Blind.

**Additional information:**

Anticipated start date is May 26, and hours are dependent on student programming. Therefore, flexible availability is required. Email [Sheila.koenig@state.mn.us](mailto:Sheila.koenig@state.mn.us) with any questions.

Salary:

Tou Yang, our Work Opportunities Navigator, is available to help you with creating a resume and practice interviewing if this would be helpful for you. Contact Tou at [Tou.yang@state.mn.us](mailto:Tou.yang@state.mn.us)

Resume should be submitted to Sheila Koenig at [Sheila.Koenig@state.mn.us](mailto:Sheila.Koenig@state.mn.us) by4:30 p.m. Friday, May 15