

Best Practices for Adapting Employment Programs for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum and/or with an Intellectual Disability throughout COVID-19

Questions to consider when adjusting an employment program

- How can this program continue safely?
- How can we properly engage participants?
- How do we ensure alternatives are inclusive?

Tips on how to adjust an employment program

Engage with clients



- Assess clients needs
- Be candid about changes in support
- Encourage clients to engage where possible from home

Explore Virtual Options



- Determine if virtual options are possible for programming
- Assess if clients have access to technology

Assist with Technology Setup



- Provide clear guidelines of how to attend programs
- Assist with setup (i.e., email, phone call)

Adjust Support Method



- Continue connecting through phone, email, video chat etc.
- Assess client preferences of connection method

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Checklist for Assessing the Suitability of Virtual Programming with Clients



Needs Assessment

- What assistance do you need right now?
- How can you remain engaged from home?
- How can we continue to support you from home?

Suitability of Virtual Programming

- Do you have access to technology from home?
- Do you have a stable internet connection?
- Do you have access to a quiet space where you can attend the virtual program?

Setup Assistance

- Do you require any assistance with setting up?
- Do you require guidance in using the online platforms you'll need to participate in the virtual programming?
- Is there anything we can provide to help you?

Support Method

- Who would you like to keep connected with?
- How would you like to stay connected?
- How often would you like support?

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