

## Section II: Executive Summary

**Name of Applicant:** [name of local program]

**Summary of Proposal:** This project proposes to enhance provision of transitioning services, and particularly High School/High Tech (HS/HT) programming in [locality] to address well documented increased high school graduation rates, reduced dropout rates, completion of post-secondary education, achievement of gainful employment and achievement of higher levels of employment for high school students with disabilities. The Design Features of High School/High Tech, including Preparatory Experiences, Connecting Activities, Work-based Experiences and Youth Development & Leadership, have been shown to improve the education and employment outcomes of students with disabilities. In addition, Maryland businesses and agencies will profit from a better-prepared workforce.

Our proposal is based on [number of years local program has been in operation as HS/HT] years of High School/High Tech activities built on our experience as one of six successful HS/HT programs in Maryland, providing content and activities directly related to high tech careers. In addition to linkage to the statewide HS/HT website, our project will have the following:

- Participation on the state level inter-disciplinary leadership consortium to provide statewide oversight, with parallel local advisory committees.
- Linkage with WIA Youth Councils, county youth employment programs, and other local youth initiatives, to support internships and work experiences.
- Earlier DORS involvement with HS/HT students to address components such as career assessment, work readiness, connection to workforce and continued education.
- Establishment of local school contacts for referrals and IEP elements, as appropriate.
- Linkage with the DORS Self-Employment program (RISE) to offer Entrepreneurship.
- Linkage with Business Leadership Networks for posting of resumes, and opportunities for virtual and physical tours, job shadowing and informational interviewing.
- **[Enter any additional bullet points that would be applicable to specific grant for which you are applying.]**

Organization/Partner	Type of Organization
DORS	Public rehabilitation program in Maryland; a division of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
[locality] Work Force Investment Board	Agency operated through the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, overseeing implementation of the Workforce Investment Act in [locality], including the local Youth Council
WIA Youth Council	Promotes programs for youth leading to employment.
[name of local school board] Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services	Division of the [name of local school board] responsible for special education and early intervention services to students with disabilities.

<b>[name of local school board]</b> Division of Career Technology	Division of the <b>[name of local school board]</b> responsible for technology and adult education.
Developmental Disabilities Council	Advocacy organization promoting full inclusion of individuals with developmental disabilities in all aspects of life.
Maryland Department of Disability Services	Maryland department charged with coordinating and addressing a wide range of issues affecting the lives of individuals with disabilities.
Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities	Within the Department of Disability Services, an office responsible for promoting the full employment of people with disabilities.
Maryland Technology Assistance Program	Within the Department of Disability Services, an office responsible for demonstration of technology and devices and administration of loan programs designed to address needs of individuals with disabilities.
Executive Director, UCP HS/HT Program	Private non-profit organization operating the HS/HT program in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.
Project Director, Lower Shore Enterprises HS/HT	Private non-profit organization operating the HS/HT program in Wicomico County.
Project Director, Garrett County Public Schools, Collaborative Transition HS/HT Program	Public school system operating the HS/HT program in Garrett County, in collaboration with Appalachian Crossroads
Project Director, North County High School HS/HT Program	Public high school in Anne Arundel county operating a school-based program, in collaboration with PDG Rehabilitation Services
Project Director, National Federation of the Blind HS/HT Program	Private advocacy program operating a Transition to Independence Club, the only HS/HT program specifically geared to blind youth
Project Director, University of Maryland's HS/HT Young Scholars Program	Public university operating a HS/HT program in conjunction with the university's Young Scholars Program, operating in Prince George's County and open to students Statewide
Representative of Post-Secondary Education	College or university.
Participant or past participant of HS/HT and family member	TBD
<b>[other local partners.]</b>	<b>[description of type of organization of local partner.]</b>

**Funds Requested:** [amount being requested based on requirements of RFP]

**Planned Period of Performance:** [beginning and end dates of performance period]

**VR and Youth Service Integration:** DORS' VR program is involved in all aspects of the HS/HT program. Integration with Youth Services is key to success in offering summer employment, a critical component of design feature 3 and has been a significant element in the current HS/HT program in [locality]. HS/HT participants will be referred for DORS services no later than their next to last year of high school.

**Sustaining the HS/HT program.** DORS will fund 1) the upkeep of the statewide website, and 2) the Statewide HS/HT Leadership Consortium after the project period. **[name of local program]**, the HS/HT Leadership Consortium, and local advisory committees will investigate additional strategies, including alternate funding, to sustain the program.