LEAP From Youth to Adult: A Systematic Approach to Advocacy Leadership, and Employment Skill Training
There is compelling evidence from the special education literature that enhanced self-determination and leadership skills lead to more positive adult outcomes, including more positive employment outcomes (Wehmeyer, Avery, Matthau, & Stancliffe, 2003).
There is a growing body of evidence in the field of vocational rehabilitation that enhancing choice opportunities leads to better VR-related outcomes. Studies have shown that people who are involved with and make choices about their employment options achieve more positive outcomes (Wehmeyer & Pariseau, 2011).
Overview

• 10 Day training on Texas A&M Campus
• July 19th thru 28th
• 24 hour a day supervision
• 3 to 1 ratio participant to adult supervisors
• Cost $30000 per participant
• Includes housing, 3 meals daily, all instructional materials
## LEAP Program Components

- Programs include
  - Small and large group discussions
  - Hands on experience
  - Leadership and advocacy training that concludes with the development of a personal leadership plan
  - Team Building Skill Training
  - Employment Skills Training
  - Trip to the state Capitol that includes mock legislative sessions and meetings with state legislators
  - Talent Show
• Topics include
  – Team Building
  – Self Determination
  – Self-Advocacy
  – Legislative Advocacy
  – Person Center Planning
  – Choosing a career
  – Understanding the history of disability as a culture
  – Assistive technology for independence
  – Employment Skills
  – Independent Living Instruction
LEAP Application Process

For Region 20

- 20 Slots held for Region 20 applicants
- Online application link will be sent to district SPED directors by ESC 20 on Friday, May 22\textsuperscript{nd}
- Applications need to be completed by 6/26/2015
- Applications will be scored
- Applicants will be notified July 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2015
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