**Using Community Based Instruction to Teach Purchasing Skills**

**What is the evidence base?**

A *potential* level of evidence based on one acceptable quality group study and three acceptable quality single subject studies

**With whom was it implemented?**

- Students with
  - Mild intellectual disability (1 study, n = 20)
  - Moderate intellectual disability (3 studies, n = 30)
  - Moderate, severe, to profound intellectual disability (1 study, n = 15)
  - Autism (2 studies, n = 5)
- Ages ranged from 11 - 21, 3 studies; mean age of 17.2 years, 1 group study
- Males (n=46), females (n=24)
- Ethnicity
  - None reported (n = 70, 4 studies)

**What is the practice?**

Community based instruction is teaching functional skills that take place in the community where target skills would naturally occur (Brown et al., 1983).

In the studies used to establish the evidence base for using community based instruction (CBI) to teach purchasing skills CBI:

- immediately followed simulated instruction (Bates, Cuvo, Miner, & Korabek, 1999; Westling, Floyd, & Carr, 1990)
- followed instruction to mastery levels in the classroom using simulation and picture prompts (Alberto, Cihak, & Gama, 2005)
- followed classroom and school-based instruction on the skill (Cihak & Grim, 2008)

**How has the practice been implemented?**

- Simulated instruction paired with CBI was more effective and efficient than CBI alone to teach students tasks associated with purchasing a soft drink in a restaurant, using a 20 step task analysis (Bates et al., 1999)
Simulated instruction using a picture prompt photo album of a debit machine preceded community based instruction using least to most prompts to make purchases using a debit card (Alberto et al., 2005)

Students were taught the “next dollar” purchasing strategy using least to most prompts on the classroom, then with the same instructional strategy at the school bookstore, and finally at a department store with purchases up to $20 in value (Cihak & Grim, 2008)

Small group instruction using role-play and demonstration of purchasing skills immediately preceded community-based instruction in a department store using response prompts (i.e., task analysis) and least to most prompting by the teacher (Westling et al., 1990)

Where has it been implemented?

- Department store (2 studies)
- Grocery store (1 study)
- Restaurant (1 study)

Where is the best place to find out how to do this practice?

- Using CBI to teach purchasing skills

How does this practice relate to Indicator 13?

- Indicator 13 Checklist Item #3: Teaching purchasing skills in the community may reflect results of transition assessment information
- Indicator 13 Checklist Item #4: Community based instruction on purchasing may be a transition service designated in an IEP that will enable a student to meet his or her postsecondary independent living goal(s)
- Indicator 13 Checklist Item #6: Teaching purchasing skills using CBI may be part of an annual IEP goal that supports a student’s postsecondary independent living goal(s)

How does this practice relate to Common Core Standards?

- Reason quantitatively and use units to solve problems (Quantities, Number and Quantity, High School)
  - Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays
• Solve real-life and mathematical problems using equations and algebraic expressions
  (Expressions and Equations, Grade 7)
  o Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and
    negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals),
    using tools strategically

**How does this practice relate to States’ Career Cluster Initiative: Essential
Knowledge and Skills?**

• Demonstrate mathematics knowledge and skills required to pursue the full range of
  post-secondary education and career opportunities (Academic Foundations)
  o Identify whole numbers, decimals, and fractions
  o Demonstrate use of relational expressions such as: equal to, not equal,
    greater than, less than, etc
  o Demonstrate knowledge of basic arithmetic operations such as: addition,
    subtraction, multiplication, and division

**References used to establish this evidence base:**


Cihak, D. F., & Grim, J. (2008). Teaching students with autism spectrum disorder and
moderate intellectual disabilities to use counting-on strategies to enhance

setting training on learning to shop in a department store. *American Journal of Mental Retardation, 94*, 616-624.