

ADVANTAGE PROGRAM AND AFTERNOON PREVOCATIONAL TRAINING (APT) PROGRAM

Parsons Child & Family Center's Advantage Program and the Afterschool Prevocational Training (APT) Program provide prevocational preparation and career exploration opportunities in a therapeutic afterschool setting for Albany County youth age 12–19+ who may be at risk or who may be experiencing social, emotional, or behavioral challenges. Training is provided by agency staff with experience in special education and expertise in their area of instruction. Program staff work closely with participants' primary service providers.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Prevocational preparation and career exploration opportunities placing equal emphasis on the acquisition of hands-on skills and appropriate work-setting behaviors
- Instruction offered in computer skills and repair, food services, auto mechanics, audio recording technology, multi-occupations, and job readiness
- Supervised off-site job placements are available to eligible participants
- Participants earn a monthly training allowance based on their attendance and performance
- Opportunity for recreational and creative arts activities
- Transportation is available to the city of Albany and other outlying areas; youth are picked up at their respective schools or homes, and are returned home each day after the end of the program

BENEFITS

- Provides a supervised, structured environment for participant during after-school hours
- Fosters positive social skills development through group activity
- Facilitates participant development of appropriate relationships with peers and caring adults

Who can access services? Albany County youth ages 12–19+ who may be at risk or who display social, emotional, or behavioral challenges.

How are services accessed? Call 518.426.2772 for referral or information. Youth may be referred to the program by their parent, primary clinical program, ICM, probation, school district, private therapist, or other service provider.

When are services available? The program is located on the Parsons Child & Family Center's Academy Road campus and runs year-round, Monday through Friday during the school calendar year and on specified weekdays over the summer. Hours are 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.