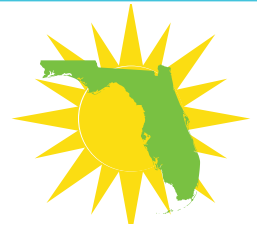


Fast Facts about Employment for People with Disabilities in Florida

Employment First
FLORIDA



ISSUE NO. 5, 2019

What is Self-Employment?

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Self-employment means that you work for yourself or own your own business. Sometimes you may hear people use the term “micro-enterprise” when they’re talking about self-employment. Micro-enterprise means that a business employs between 1 and 5 people.

Self-employment can lead you to a better life. It can mean loving the work that you do. Let’s take a closer look at how it works.

Why is self-employment a good thing for some people?

- Self-employment gives people the chance to make their own hours and encourages them to be more independent. It can also help people have more freedom and control throughout their days. Sometimes, being self-employed can mean that a person no longer needs to get financial help from the government, such as Social Security Disability Insurance.
- Sometimes a parent, brother, or sister helps a person run a business. Getting help from our family is a normal and positive part of life for many people, with and without disabilities. When your family helps you, it can make you feel more confident in doing what you love. Having family help you out in your business can be a good thing!
- A small business can offer flexibility to meet your personal needs. For example, when you own a business, you can set your schedule and take time off to go to doctor’s appointments.
- Using our personal talents, exploring different kinds of work, and learning the connection between working and getting paid are important activities for everyone! Self-employment is one way to make these things happen.

Conclusion

Working allows us to have more security by taking care of our financial needs, such as bills, rent, and food. Having income also makes it easier to deal with any emergencies that come up.

Every business will have its good days and bad days. On the good days, your job will make you happy! And even on the bad days, you’ll be on your way to earning money to get ahead.

Want to learn more about self-employment? Check out these resources.

Self-Employment and Microenterprise
www.onestops.info/pdf/SelfemploymentCE1.pdf

Respect of Florida Microenterprise Grant Winners
[www.respectofflorida.org/assets/File/Uploads/Micro-Enterprise Grant Winners - 2018 Updates.pptx](http://www.respectofflorida.org/assets/File/Uploads/Micro-Enterprise%20Grant%20Winners%20-%202018%20Updates.pptx)

Supported Employment as a Career Options for Individuals with Disabilities
<https://ici.umn.edu/products/impact/251/6.html>

12 Businesses Owned by People With Down Syndrome You Can Support
<https://themighty.com/2017/10/businesses-owned-people-with-down-syndrome/>

ThinkWork! Self-Employment Stories
www.thinkwork.org/project/self-employment

“Employment First” means that working in the community should be a choice for everyone, with or without a disability.

The Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston is working with the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council and other state agencies to make “Employment First” happen in Florida.



Florida
Developmental
Disabilities
Council, Inc.

For more information about Employment First Florida, please visit the website www.EmploymentFirstFL.org/

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