

Employment First means that employment should be the first and preferred option for all people, regardless of their disability. Under Employment First legislation, employment in the general workforce at or above minimum wage is the first and preferred option for all working age citizens with disabilities.

Employment First legislation benefits Georgians with disabilities.

It benefits Georgia families.

It benefits Georgia employers.

It benefits Georgia taxpayers.



\$260/month = the average gain for Georgia taxpayers when a person with intellectual disabilities gets vocational rehabilitation employment services that help them work. That's because when Georgians with disabilities work, they are no longer partaking of more expensive services, and they become taxpayers themselves.¹



Many Georgians with disabilities, including D.W., are labeled "unemployable" or "unready to work." But in reality, it's our system that's not working. D.W. received employment support services and now has a full time job at \$11 an hour with benefits.



Paula Clark of Tift County enhances her employer's efficiency. The system she and her job coach created for sorting laundry has been adopted by several co-workers.



Carlotta Booker of Savannah uses technology to make her dream job in retail a reality.

¹ Robert E. Cimera (2010) National Cost Efficiency of Supported Employees With Intellectual Disabilities: 2002 to 2007. American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

