



TSI CARES FOUNDATION – ELEVATE PROGRAM

Residential Programmatic Rules

For Residents Ages 18–21 Enrolled in the Independent Living Program

The ELEVATE Program, operated by the TSI Cares Foundation, is a residential workforce development initiative in Florida. It targets young adults aged 18-21 enrolled in the Independent Living Program, aiming to equip them with essential skills and support for a successful transition into the workforce. Below is a comprehensive overview of the programs structure, eligibility criteria, and discharge requirements.

Programmatic Rules

1. Eligibility Requirements

To participate in the ELEVATE Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Age: Between 18 and 21 years old.
- Residency: Must reside in the TSI Cares Foundation ELEVATE housing. This environment offers developmentally appropriate freedom and responsibility to prepare the young adult for adulthood, including life skills instruction, counseling, educational support, and employment preparation.
- Education: Engagement in education services related to employment is required for participants 19 years of age or younger who have not completed high school or obtained a high school equivalency diploma.

2. Program Overview

The Opportunity Project

Young adults accepted into the ELEVATE program begin their journey by attending The Opportunity Project, a three-week kick starter career readiness program that helps young people understand and maximize their opportunities beyond the classroom to see and achieve their full potential. The face-to-face program not only equips students with essential professional skills-such as communication, interview techniques, and networking, but also helps participants gain confidence, recognize transferable strengths, and cultivate ambition. It is here that participants pick their path and next steps!

Career Connect @ FSCJ

Participants will work with their individualized Employment Success Coach and Workforce Program to enroll in the Career Connect program, which aims to help earn a GED through an Adult Education program and gain a workforce certification simultaneously. Participants are given a weekly stipend of \$100 week.

Participants may choose from the following programs, but must work with Success Coach to determine eligibility for certain programs:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| • Certified Nursing Assistant | • Phlebotomy | • Commercial Vehicle Driving |
| | • Python 1 | |

- Facials Specialty
- Cosmetology
- Welding
- Medical Assisting
- Automotive Collision
- Technology Technician.

Wealth Watchers: The C.O.F.F.E.E. Project

Participants will work with their individualized Employment Success Coach and Workforce Program to enroll in The C.O.F.F.E.E. Project to gain leadership skills, workforce preparedness, and construction trade training while earning an income that will improve overall quality of life. The program runs on specific dates throughout the year and participants are paid \$14/hr to attend the program. Full program length: 12-14 weeks and concludes in job placement.

Participants may choose from the following programs, but must work with Success Coach to determine eligibility for certain programs:

- General Carpentry
- Solar Installation
- HazMat
- Landscaping
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Welding
- Forklift Driving

3. Program Components

The ELEVATE Program encompasses several key components designed to support participants' development:

- Job Skills Training: Customized training to meet specific employer or industry needs, including literacy instruction and, if necessary, language instruction to enhance employment opportunities.
- Virtual Learning: Participants work through a series of modules to learn soft skills, professionalism, digital skills, and academic employability through Florida Youth Work.
- Job Readiness Assistance: Support for job-seeking activities, including orientation to the world of work, instruction in completing job applications and resumes, interview preparation, and access to employment resource centers.
- Weekly TOP-Up Class: Training in essential life skills to prepare for independent living, such as financial literacy, time management, and effective communication. Instruction is delivered weekly in-person and via ZOOM.

4. Discharge Requirements

Participants may exit the ELEVATE Program under the following conditions:

- Age Limit: Upon reaching 21 years of age.
- Completion of Program Goals: Successful attainment of employment and independent living skills as outlined in the participant's individualized plan.
- Voluntary Withdrawal: A participant may choose to withdraw from the program, with the decision verified by the case manager/supporting CBC.
- Non-Compliance: Failure to adhere to program requirements, such as participation in assigned work activities, class attendance, dismissal from Independent Living by CBC, may result in discharge. Exceptions may be made for verified medical incapacity or other circumstances beyond the participant's control.