

MISSION

The Able Trust is to be a key leader in providing opportunities for successful employment for Floridians with disabilities.

SUPPORTING JOB SEEKERS WITH DISABILITIES

The Able Trust is Florida's leader in raising awareness of disability employment. We work with high schools, colleges and universities, and businesses, connecting them to local disability service agencies and job seekers with disabilities.

Over the past 31 years, The Able Trust has supported numerous workforce development projects and career preparation programs for students and adults, and we have worked with organizations in every county in Florida to put thousands of people with disabilities to work.

For questions about HSHT or Project Venture, contact
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The Able Trust High School High Tech (HSHT) program provides high school students with disabilities the opportunity to explore jobs and post-secondary education leading to in-demand careers. HSHT connects students to a broad range of academic and career development resources and experiences that will help prepare them to meet the demands of the 21st century workforce.

PROJECT VENTURE

In 2019 The Able Trust launched Project Venture, a business development competition, focused on creating a hands-on experience for High School High Tech youth. As part of the competition, students create a plan for a business or product, in any sector of their choice. The only limit is their creativity.

The goals of Project Venture are to:

- Introduce students to entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial spirit.
- Facilitate students working in teams on real-world applications.
- Allow students to develop workplace communication skills and other soft skills.
- Enable students to learn-by-doing.

Through Project Venture, students learn how to delegate tasks, develop timelines, produce written communications, solve problems and engage in "Big Picture" thinking.

Project Venture helps students strengthen those skills that will be key to their success once they enter the workforce or post-secondary education. Some students learn by hearing; some by seeing; and still others by doing. Project Venture ensures that all types of learners can participate.

Each HSHT site is encouraged to build interest and develop a team to participate. A panel of judges review all submissions and select three finalists. Those three teams advance to the state competition where they submit their business plan and commercial, and make their presentation to the judges.

The Project Venture winning team receives a cash award they can use for various needs of their HSHT site. All Project Venture participants leave the competition having gained new skills and a new confidence that will be beneficial as they consider their future beyond high school.

