

# Individual Placement and Support (IPS) for Employment



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(MHE)  
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**Source reference:**  
EU Compass  
2016 booklet on  
good practices

## **Practice description:**

The objective of IPS is to enable people with severe and/or chronic mental ill health to enter and/or remain in the competitive labor market. The method works by placing someone in employment and then supporting and training them in an inclusive work environment.

IPS is based on eight basic principles:

1. It aims to get people into competitive employment;
2. It is open to all those who want to work;
3. It tries to find jobs consistent with people's preferences;
4. It works quickly;
5. It brings employment specialists into clinical teams;
6. Employment specialists develop relationships with employers based upon a person's work preferences;
7. It provides time unlimited, individualized support for the person and their employer; and
8. Benefits counseling is included.

## **Outcomes/Results:**

Numerous randomized controlled trials (RCTs) have shown that IPS gets up to twice as many people into competitive employment as other traditional vocational services. It is the most researched employment intervention worldwide providing a unique evidence base for its effectiveness. This method has been increasingly used throughout the world and in Europe including in the UK, the Netherlands, Spain and Italy.

Providing community based mental health services and developing integrated governance approaches.