



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. NURTURE.

Enter with promise. Leave with purpose.

PARENT/STUDENT TRANSITION MANUAL

**DISTRICT 155
SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	OUR MISSION
3-5	PARENT/STUDENT CHECKLIST
6	PLANNING FOR ADULTHOOD
7-8	FINANCIAL & LEGAL SUPPORTS AND SERVICES
9-13	COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY
14	EMPLOYMENT
15	POST-SECONDARY/POST-TRANSITION PROGRAMS
16	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & OTHER HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS
17	LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
18	DISTRICT 155 SPECIAL PROGRAMS TRANSITION CONTACT



OUR MISSION



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO WORK, COLLEGE, AND TOOLS TO NAVIGATE INDEPENDENCE

Specialized Programs and Services will collaborate with parents and students to provide linkage and information necessary to access supports that assist with financial, medical, vocational, and independent living.

- Social Worker provides parents with information (electronic and written) and linkage to local services and supports for students and families.
- The information within the packet includes explanations and timelines to connect with various agencies and resources.
- Examples include: Social Security Administration, Options and Advocacy, Services Inc., Illinois Dept of Human Services, financial, medical, legal, recreational, and other community resources to support and empower parents and students within the D155 Specialized Programs to make educational decisions for transitioning into the community successfully.

PARENT/STUDENT CHECKLIST

14 - 18+ YEARS OF AGE

The following is a list of transition guidelines that students, their families, and school personnel should consider as they plan for a student's transition from high school into adult services. This is just a beginning list of helpful local agencies and programs that can provide support and encouragement in planning for transition goals documented in a student's IEP meeting.

Information gathered from the McHenry County Transition Resource Directory



AGE 14 1/2

- ☐ Transition Planning is officially documented within the IEP
- ☐ Contact Options & Advocacy and Services Inc. to open a case, if one hasn't already been created (Autism Programming)
- ☐ Fill out the necessary paperwork to sign up for the PUNS list (funding source - Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) (through Services Inc. **The PAS/ISC Agency is Service Inc. Region A for McHenry County, (815) 338-0740- Joyce Rudicil, Program Manager, ext. 4118, jrudicil@svcincofil.org**) This can be done as soon as a child is identified as having a developmental disability.
- ☐ Investigate assistive technology tools that can increase community involvement and employment opportunities
- ☐ Explore personal interests related to post-secondary education, employment, and independent living (information gathered for IEP meeting/courses)
- ☐ Begin forming future goals related to post-secondary education/training, employment, and independent living
- ☐ Determine strengths and needs through formal and informal Transition Assessments
- ☐ Understand transition and what that means for your child

AGE 15

- ☐ Begin identifying appropriate adult agencies in the community
- ☐ Sign releases for referrals to appropriate agencies at least annually at IEP meetings
- ☐ Reapply for PUNS funding
- ☐ Evaluate for vocational related skills and interests
- ☐ Obtain state ID as appropriate (obtain at Woodstock Secretary of State office, need a certified copy of birth certificate) [REAL ID-Mandatory by May 2023](#)
- ☐ Review and update transition plan

PARENT/STUDENT CHECKLIST

14 - 18+ YEARS OF AGE

AGE 16

- ☐ Check with an attorney or Service Inc. about guardianship, estate planning, a special needs trust, or opening an ABLE Account
 - ☐ Refer to Vocational Rehabilitation or other appropriate agencies. DRS–Division of Rehabilitation Services. [IDHS– Rehabilitation \(Online Referral\)](#)
 - ☐ Contact a Benefits Counselor (through DHS – Department of Human Services) to provide more information on financial planning and employment (1-800-807-6962) www.dhs.state.il.us
 - ☐ Explore part-time and summer employment options, if appropriate
 - ☐ Begin job training at community sites or school vocational programs
 - ☐ Sign releases for referrals to appropriate agencies at least annually at IEP meetings (Medicaid reimbursement, DRS, Service Inc., etc)
 - ☐ Reapply for PUNS funding
 - ☐ Identify and visit possible post-secondary schools/programming
 - ☐ Review and update transition plan
-

AGE 17

- ☐ Sign releases for referrals to appropriate agencies at least annually at IEP meetings
- ☐ Invite adult service providers to the IEP meeting
- ☐ Reapply for PUNS funding
- ☐ Apply for SSI in birth month and Medicaid two months prior to 18th birthday, if appropriate
- ☐ Plan for transition vocational training after graduation through the school (STRIVE Transition Program), if appropriate
- ☐ Check health insurance needs
- ☐ Discuss employment options or additional education training options
- ☐ Select post-secondary schools/programming and consider necessary accommodations ([See accommodations request form](#))
- ☐ Review and update transition plan

PARENT/STUDENT CHECKLIST

14 - 18+ YEARS OF AGE

AGE 18

- ☐ Sign releases for referrals to appropriate agencies at least annually at IEP meetings
 - ☐ Reapply for PUNS funding
 - ☐ Apply for SSI (Supplemental Security Income thru the Social Security Administration) if not already done [Social Security Income](#)
 - ☐ Gather information, review, and identify necessary services, including transportation
 - ☐ Arrange to meet with and tour adult service agencies and select appropriate service providers; confirm eligibility and status
 - ☐ Depending on one's disability and services needed, he/she may receive educational services under IDEA for the duration of the school year in which they turn 22 years of age
 - ☐ Review and update transition plan
 - ☐ All males must register with the selective service <https://www.sss.gov/Home/Registration>
 - ☐ Register to vote
 - ☐ Seek guardianship if appropriate
-

P. U. N. S.

(PRIORITIZATION FOR URGENCY OF NEED FOR SERVICE)

PUNS is a statewide database that records information about individuals with developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services. The State uses the data to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. Children, teens, and adults with developmental disabilities who need services or supports should enroll. PUNS selections are based upon funding availability and ability to fill program vacancies. Individuals selected from the database will receive a letter directly from the Department of Human Services announcing their selection and inviting them to apply for services by contacting their Independent Service Coordination (ISC) Agency (*which is Services Inc for McHenry County).

Contact Services Inc. to open a case for PUNS. Be sure to let school personnel know that you are connected with Services Inc. and have applied for PUNS funding, so that information can be reflected in your child's IEP. You should apply for services by age 15 and reapply annually. If you have not done so before age 15, you can still sign up at any time.

PLANNING FOR ADULTHOOD

Information found in Mchenry County Transition Resource Guide

01 SHIFT FROM ENTITLEMENT TO ELIGIBILITY

When planning for your child's transition to adulthood, it is essential to realize a shift in how programming and supports are provided. As an individual from age 3 to 22, your child with a disability is entitled to a free and appropriate public education under the law. When your child continues at a community college, university, training program, or day program, s/he must qualify for services based on eligibility criteria determined by each organization. **It is your child's responsibility to seek needed accommodations and services beyond age 22. Our goal is to help you access these integral transition linkages so our student's have a seamless transition from educational to adult services.**

02 SUPPORTING SELF-ADVOCACY

It is critical for your child to be able to talk about his/her disability and be able to share about his/her strengths and needs. If s/he will be attending college or gain employment, your child will need to be able to request accommodations for themselves. As mentioned above, it is your child's responsibility to seek needed accommodations and services once they enter post-secondary education or employment. As a junior or senior in high school, it is important for students with disabilities to begin taking more ownership in their education and begin self-advocating for their needs. There should also be more of a focus on their active participation in annual IEP meetings. This can be mirrored at home by permitting your son/daughter to have more responsibilities at home and/or converse with your child about the importance of speaking up for oneself and one's needs.

As a parent of an individual with more significant disabilities, it will be important for you to be able to articulate your child's strengths, needs, and accommodations they receive to an adult agency, if your child is unable to do so him/herself. All of this will be documented in one's IEP and Summary of Performance, upon exiting school programming. In addition, at school and at home, your child should be advocating for oneself. This may look differently for each student (i.e. utilizing visuals, short phrases such as "Too much" or "I'm nervous" or "I like this", or using full sentences using one's voice or assistive technology device). Self-determination and self-advocacy are very important for all students, especially those with disabilities.

03 NAVIGATING THE COMMUNITY

Knowing all of the supports our community offers can be a challenge. This guide is meant to provide you with various sources of support for your child's specific needs and enhance his/her strengths. In many cases, families will seek the support of multiple services; school personnel and agencies will work together with you and your child to provide collaborative, integrated services.

FINANCIAL & LEGAL RESOURCES

Free and Reduced Lunch School Fee Waiver Student's School

- [Fee waiver](#) Forms should be returned to your student's home school
- Electronic Free and Reduced School Fee forms can also be found on the school webpage

Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/>

(800) 772-1213

790 Fletcher Dr.

Elgin IL 60123

2450 Lake Shore Dr.

Woodstock IL 60098

Description of Services

- This administration determines eligibility for and payment of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to those who qualify

Real ID

- For Illinois residents who fly domestically, effective Oct. 1 2020 the federal government will require you to use a valid U.S. passport or obtain a REAL ID from the Illinois Secretary of State's office. (Department of Motor Vehicle Office-DMV Office)

You NEED a REAL ID if:

- You do **not** have a valid U.S. passport or passport card; AND
- You use airplanes as a mode of domestic transportation; or
- You visit military bases; or
- You visit secure federal facilities(including courthouses).

[REAL ID Checklist](#)

- If your student is unable to sign his/her name, there is a form that you will need to request at the DMV- The Unable to Perform form. If they say they do not have one ask for a supervisor then call (312) 814-2975 if they don't have the form while you are still there.

Medicaid

DHS Family Community Resource Center in McHenry County

2215 Lake Shore Dr

Woodstock, IL 60098 (815) 338-0234

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday (except state holidays)

Receives applications for Cash, SNAP, and Medical Assistance by fax, mail or in person

Description of Services

- Medicaid provides health care for low income people. Provides assistance to those who have little or no income. While Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Food Stamps helps low-income families buy food.
- [CHIP](#) Children's Health Insurance Program
- [ABE](#) Application for Benefits Eligibility
*Potential eligibility for food assistance, cash assistance, health coverage
- [SNAP](#) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Eligibility based on income, age and/or disability

Achieving A Better Life Experience (ABLE) ACT

- ABLE Accounts, which are tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities and their families, were created as a result of the passage of the Stephen Beck Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014 or better known as the ABLE Act. The beneficiary of the account is the account owner, and income earned by the accounts will not be taxed.
- National Resource Center [Information on ABLE Accounts](#)

The Estate Planning Law Group

Future Care Planning for Children and Adults with Special Needs

Kirsten L. Izatt

600 W. Roosevelt Rd Ste A-1

Wheaton, IL 60187

TEPLG.com (630) 871-8778

FINANCIAL & LEGAL RESOURCES

Guardianship & Advocacy Commission

<https://www.illinois.gov/sites/gac/Pages/default.aspx>

North Suburban Regional Office
9511 Harrison Avenue W-335
Des Plaines IL 60016-1565
(847) 294-4264

Rockford Regional Office
4302 North Main Street, Suite 108
Rockford, Illinois 61103-5202
(815) 987-7657

- Protects the rights and promotes the welfare of persons with disabilities.
- Provides legal representation, investigates complaints of rights violations, and provides state guardianship for Illinois' population with disabilities. The office has the following divisions: Office of State Guardian, Legal Advocacy Service, Human Rights Authority

Family Benefits Solutions

<http://www.familybenefitsolutions.com/our-services.html>

Family Benefit Solutions Inc.
Sherri Schneider
1110 W. Lake Cook Rd. Suite 150
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
(847) 279-8506
benefithelp@aol.com

Through innovative and empathetic techniques, they help families to:

- Become more knowledgeable about available benefit programs
- Acts in (or Serves or Plays) an integral role in the application process by understanding and completing the sometimes complicated benefit applications and associated paperwork
- Helps to ensure future benefits are sustained through appropriate referrals to legal experts which complement their efforts

Rubin Law, A Professional Corporation

Rubin Law, A Professional Corporation
2 1110 Lake Cook Rd #165
Buffalo Grove IL 60089 (847) 279.7999
<http://www.rubinlaw.com/> email@rubinlaw.com

Description of Services

Legal and future planning for their fellow Illinois families of individuals with special needs, including intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and/or mental illness. [SNA Handbook](#)

Guardianship for a Disabled Adult

Mchenry County Circuit Court

- [Guide for Petitioning for Guardianship as a Self-Litigant](#)
- Guardianship Forms for seeking guardianship as a self-litigant
- Disabled Adult Guardianship Forms
<https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-a-i/circuit-clerk/civil-information/probate/probate-disabled-adult-guardianship>

Protected Tomorrows

Contact: Ms. Mary Anne Ehlert
103 Schelter Rd #10, Lincolnshire IL 60069
(847) 522.8086 (847) 522.8081
<https://protectedtomorrows.com>
info@protectedtomorrows.com

Description of Services

- Protected Tomorrows offers a variety of services for families with special needs individuals, and for those assisting with the care and planning needs of family members and loved ones with special needs.
- Connect with a Disability Advocate who takes on your case
- Parent University **FREE** webinar series highlighting topics for Transition Planning
- There are eight stages of the Process for Protected Tomorrows that are typically completed over a year-long process to structure the care for your loved one with special needs and provide insight on financial/legal responsibilities

COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY

Options and Advocacy

www.optionsandadvocacy.org

365 Millennium Drive Suite A
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
(815) 477-4720 Fax (815) 477 4700

Description of Services

Options and Advocacy is a great organization without our local community for assisting infants, children and adults on the Autism Spectrum through our Child & Family Connections (early intervention program), our HUG (Helping Us Grow) prevention initiative program, our Autism Resource Center, Sibshops, the AOK (All Our Kids) network, and the many other supports that we provide such as playgroups and educational opportunities for families.

Options & Advocacy's mission is to enhance the quality of life of children and adults with disabilities through advocacy, the coordination of services and community education.

- Child & Family Connections Program
- Community Assess Coordination Program
- Autism Support Program
- Sibshops
- Life Management

Service Inc. of Illinois

<https://www.svcincofil.org>

390 Congress Parkway, Suite A
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 339-0740

McHenry County PAS/ISC Service Coordination Region A

- Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) – Joyce Rudicil, Program Manager, ext. 4118, jrudicil@svcincofil.org
- PUNS – Joyce Rudicil, Program Manager, ext. 4118, jrudicil@svcincofil.org
- ISSA – Kristi Bork, Program Manager, ext. 4126, kbork@svcincofil.org

Service Inc. of Illinois

Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services – PUNS

- Enrollment in the PUNS waiting list is a very important service that Service Inc. provides. PUNS is a statewide database that tracks individuals who have indicated various types of support needs due to a developmental disability. It also serves as the state-wide waiting list the State of Illinois uses to select people for services.
- PUNS is for infants, children, adolescents, and adults. Service Inc. will complete a PUNS enrollment form for anyone who lives in McHenry County and has a developmental disability.
- Individual Service Coordinators will meet face-to-face with the individual and their family for the initial PUNS enrollment to ensure an understanding of the state's database/waiting list. Enrollment on the PUNS does not guarantee receipt of services, nor does it assume eligibility for services.
- Link for Illinois Prioritization of Urgency of Needs for Services
<https://www.svcincofil.org>
- You can also get more information on PUNS from the Illinois Department of Human Services at: <http://www.dd.illinois.gov/SignUp.cfm>

Pre-Admission Screening (PAS)

- Any person suspected to have a developmental disability will meet one of our professional Individual Service Coordinators (ISC) and eligibility for state-funded services will be determined. Eligibility is obtained through in-depth interviews, compilation of historical documents and comprehensive assessments. Once eligibility has been confirmed, the ISC will assist the individual and their family with exploring the service options that will support and address the individual's current needs.

COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY

Lake County Center for Independent Living

(serving both Lake and McHenry Counties)

McHenry County Office
5400 W. Elm Street Suite 106
McHenry, IL 60050
(855) 246-8531 VP: (847) 388-0775
info@lccil.org, [LCCIL Programs & Services](#)

Services are provided under 5 core categories:

- Information and Referral (I&R),
- Independent Living Skills Training,
- Peer Mentoring,
- Advocacy
- Transitioning

Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA)

285 Memorial Dr. Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 459-0737 <https://www.nisra.org>

Description of Services

- All ability and all ages (teen, young adult, adult)
- Weekly Activities
- Summer Camps
- Regular Community Social Activities
- Meet other D155 families as well as students from other communities
- [NISRA Brochure](#)

Pioneer Center of McHenry County

4031 W Dayton St.
McHenry, IL 60050
(815) 344.1230
(815) 344.3815
<https://www.pioneercenter.org/>

Description of Services

Helps individuals with disabilities find community employment and gain greater independence and quality of life through participation in community- and facility-based social, recreational, and vocational activities

- Life Skills Development-Bridges Program, Developmental Training, Skills Training/Employment Services
- Respite Care through Illinois Department of Human Services
- In-Home Care
- Outsider Activities
- CARE PROGRAM monthly 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Meet with a Case Manager to begin a dialogue for adult services. Pioneer Center services students 18 and older and assists with support, therapies, housing, and vocational skills.
[Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities](#)

Eligibility for Services Children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for services. Pioneer Center also has services for families with other needs (see website for more information).

COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY

The Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA)

Palos Hills, IL 60465 (708) 430-7532
<https://ldaamerica.org> info@ldaamerica.org

Description of Services

The Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA) believes that every person with learning disabilities can succeed in school, at work, in the community

- **Promote Prevention**

We believe that the number of individuals affected by learning disabilities can be reduced with an effective, comprehensive prevention plan. We encourage research that seeks to identify the causes of learning disabilities and disseminate research findings which could lead to the reduction of the incidence of learning disabilities.

- **Foster Research in Best Practices**

We encourage ongoing research efforts into recognition, assessment and intervention strategies throughout the lifespan. We monitor and disseminate these research findings.

- **Encourage Identification**

Too many people go through life unidentified. We advocate for early identification, which increases the possibility of successful intervention. We will continue to advocate for access to identification throughout the lifespan

- **Support Intervention**

We strongly support best practice interventions for individuals with learning disabilities throughout the lifespan.

- **Protect Rights**

We are committed to advocating for and protecting the rights of all individuals with learning disabilities. This includes legislative advocacy for laws to improve and preserve the rights of all individuals as well as individual advocacy

GiGi's Playhouse

Down Syndrome Achievement Center
5404 W. Elm St. Suite A
McHenry, IL 60050
(815) 385-PLAY (7529) or
mchenry@gigisplayhouse.org <https://gigisplayhouse.org/mchenry/>

Description of Services

- The Amina Grace Speech and Language Program
- One-On-One Math Tutoring
- One-On-One Literacy Tutoring

Dream Riders

4701 N Oak St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
(815) 788-1020
<http://www.dreamriderstlc.com/>

Description of Services

- Equine Therapy for children and adults to address physical, sensory, and social concerns through Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy, Equine Assisted Therapy, Therapeutic Riding, and Riding Lessons.

COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Clearbrook

1835 West Central Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
(847) 870-7711

<https://www.clearbrook.org/>

CHOICE McHenry
16E Crystal Lake Plaza
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Description of Services

Non-profit organization committed to creating innovative opportunities, services, and supports for individuals with disabilities and their families

- CHOICE day service for adults: based upon the interests of each participant & allows for clients to experience what is meaningful in their lives (*offers flexible scheduling and options to make each participant's experience "their own")
- Clearbrook Autism Program for adults: highly structured programming with opportunities for community-based employment experiences and recreational activities
- Home-Based Services: supports individuals age 3-adulthood and their families; promote skill development & community
- integration; coordination with other programs in which individuals may participate
- Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA): individuals have the opportunity to live within their community in a home with 2-6 other clients; participate in choice-making & self-advocacy in all parts of his/her life. Staff support varies depending on client needs.

Eligibility for Services Children and adults across a variety of disabilities and their families.

*Adult programming (CHOICE, CAP, CILA): must be 18 years or older

NISRA Life Program

Mount Saint Joseph
24955 North US Hwy 12, Lake Zurich, IL 60047
(847) 438-5050 www.mtstjoseph.org

Description of Services

Provides individualized care for men and women with developmental disabilities from the residential program and the local community.

- Developmental Training Program-Day Program
- Residential Services
- Medical Services
- Psychological Services
- Case Management and Social Services

Eligibility for Services: Day programming is available for individuals with developmental disabilities. Residential services are only available to women with developmental disabilities

McHenry County Adult Program (McCAP)

P.O. Box 1823, Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 207-5617

<http://www.mccapgm.org/>

debwilkerson1@gmail.com

Description of Services

- Variety of academic, social, and therapeutic activities to improve daily living and gain independence. Programming includes:
- Community involvement, Physical, Occupational, and Music Therapy, Therapeutic Horseback Riding, Social Interaction and Field Trips (field trips are offered through a collaborative program with NISRA)
- Eligibility for Services Young adults with severe and profound disabilities

COMMUNITY LIVING, RECREATION, EXTENSIVE SUPPORTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING & ADVOCACY

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association for Individual Development (AID)

1135 Bowes Rd. Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 931-6200 www.the-association.org

Empower individuals with disabilities, mental illness and special needs to achieve independence and community inclusion

- Community Integration & Employment Services
 - Developmental Training
 - Community Employment
- Community Support & Specialized Services
 - Home-Based Support
 - Autism Services
 - Behavioral Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- Residential Services
 - Supervised and Supported Community Living

Lake County Center for Independent Living

377 N. Seymour Ave, Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 949-4440 www.lccil.org

It is LCCIL's mission to empower people with disabilities to lead self-directed lives as valued members of the community.

Five core services:

- Information and Referral
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Advocacy
- Peer Mentoring
- Transition

D155 Transition Program

STRIVE
Prairie Ridge High School
6000 Dvorak Dr
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
[STRIVE Program](#)

Contact: Matt Collins,
Special Education Division Leader
815.479.0404 ext. 5213
mattcollins@d155.org

Program Description

The STRIVE program focuses on the development of the following skills:

- Vocational/Career Development
- Independent Living
- Community Integration
- Safety and Wellness
- Self-Advocacy
- Functional Academics

EMPLOYMENT

Illinois Worknet Center (American Job Center)

<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/>

- On-line resource and local in-person assistance
- Use Service Finder to search to find places where staff can help you:
- Find jobs, Prepare for a career, and Find for work support such as financial aid, child care, and much more.

McHenry County Workforce Center: An Illinois WorkNet Center

<http://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-j-z/workforce-network>

500 Russell Court,
Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 338-7100 ext. 2771

- Career One Stop
- First Institute Crystal Lake

National Able Network

<https://www.nationalable.org>

500 Russell Court
Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 338-7100 ext. 244
(815) 338-2374

DRS: Department of Rehabilitation Services

Elgin DRS Office (serving McHenry Co.)

<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29764>

Rehabilitation Services
452 N. McLean Blvd, Suite 200
Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 931-2360

Description of Services

DHS's Division of Rehabilitation Services is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities. DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to assist them in making informed choices to achieve full community participation through employment, education, and independent living opportunities.

Complete an Online Referral Form to initiate services.

POST-SECONDARY PROGRAMS

U.S. Department of Education

Office of Civil Rights

Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education:

Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights,
Students With Disabilities Preparing for
Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and
Responsibilities, Washington, D.C., 2011.

[U.S. Department of Education Article](#)

PACER National Parent Center on Transition and
Employment

[Preparing for Post-Secondary Education: What
you Need to Know](#)

MCC- McHenry County College Access & Disability Office, A260

8900 US-14, Crystal Lake, IL 60012
(815) 455-8766 <http://www.mchenry.edu/access>

Elmhurst-Elmhurst Learning and Success Academy

190 S. Prospect Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 617-3752
[https://www.elmhurst.edu/academics/elmhurst-
learning-success-academy/](https://www.elmhurst.edu/academics/elmhurst-learning-success-academy/)

Judson-RISE Program

1151 N. State St. Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 628-2524 [Judson RISE Program](#)

Community Day Services Providers for Adults with Disabilities (IL)

Illinois Department of Human Services-
Developmental Disabilities Services
[Adult Day Programs by County](#)

Special Needs Colleges

Think College- Institution for Community Inclusion

- Lists by state, over 200 colleges for students with intellectual disabilities
- An outstanding resource for potential college students with numerous links and a plethora of information. College options for students with intellectual disabilities

www.thinkcollege.net

Southern Illinois University- [Achieve Program](#)

Northwest Annex Wing C, Rm 121
870 Lincoln Drive, Mailcode 6832
Carbondale, IL 62901 (618) 453-6155
<https://achieve.siu.edu/services/>

University of Iowa- REACH Program

229 Lindquist Center, Iowa City, IA 52242
(319) 384-2127
<https://education.uiowa.edu/services/reach>

Shepherds College

Culinary Arts, Horticulture and Technology
1805 15th Avenue, Union Grove, IL 53183
(262) 878-5620
<https://shepherdscollege.edu/>

Harper College- Transition Autism Program (TAP)

1200 W Algonquin Road, Palatine, IL 60067-7398
(847) 925-6266
<https://www.harpercollege.edu/services/ads/tap.php>

P.A.C.E. at National Louis University

122 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 261-3770
paceprogram@nl.edu
<https://www.nl.edu/paceatnlu/>

Path to Academics, Community and Employment (P.A.C.E) is a three-year, post-secondary certificate program designed to meet the transitional needs for young adults with multiple intellectual, learning and developmental disabilities.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)

<https://nami.org>

NAMI McHenry County
620 Dakota St. Crystal Lake, IL 60012
(815) 308-0851

<https://namimchenrycounty.org>

Rosecrance Behavioral Health Center

<http://www.rosecrance.org>

- **McHenry Office**
4501 Prime Parkway, McHenry, IL 60050
(815) 363-6132
- **Crystal Lake Office**
422 Tracy Court, Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 363-6132
- **Rosecrance Dakota Clinic**
630 Dakota St. Crystal Lake, IL 60012
- For residential mental health services for
teens, call (815) 391-1000

Amita Behavioral Health Center

AMITA Health Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital

1650 Moon Lake Blvd. Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(855) 383-2224

MentalHealthCenter@AMITAhealth.org

<https://www.amitahealth.org/services/behavioral-medicine>

AMITA Health Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health

3436 N. Kennicott Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 952-7460

Pioneer Center

<https://www.pioneercenter.org/programs/community-based-services/>

Behavioral Health Services consists of a group of programs designed to help individuals in community settings and in their homes.

Customized plans and goals help individuals achieve their goals and find solutions to the challenges they are facing.

Child and Family Therapy Center

101 S Jefferson St Entrance B

Woodstock, IL 60098 (815) 759-7049

Contact Elizabeth Quijada Fuentes LCSW, Child & Family Services Manager

Description of Services

Youth, under the age of 18, and their families who have a mental health diagnosis and need therapy services to help them develop skills. Youth can be referred by behavioral health providers, schools and through self-referral by the family or individual young person.

Horizon Behavioral Health

<https://www.horizonsbh.com/>

500 Coventry Ln #205, Crystal Lake, IL 6001400
(815) 455-7100

Center for Emotional Wellness

<http://centerforemotionalwellnessnorthwest.com/>

800 S. McHenry Ave, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (847)
668-2842

They have over 50 years combined experience in school, hospital and private practice settings. They are dedicated professionals with a wealth of knowledge and expertise who have helped individuals, couples and families resolve conflict and overcome difficult times in their lives from navigating relationship dynamics to managing anxiety and depression.

LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Autism Speaks

familyservices@autismspeaks.org

Regency Office Plaza, Suite 304
2700 S. River Rd. Des Plaines, IL 60018
*IL Chapter (main): (224) 567-8573
Autism Support Team: (888) 288-4762
En Español: (888) 772-9050
<https://www.autismspeaks.org/>

Description of Services

- Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.
- The Autism Response Team (ART) is specially trained to connect people with autism, their families, and caregivers to information, tools, and resources. –There are resource guides & toolkits downloadable for families. –Information can be found regarding Autism-friendly events in your area. –Opportunities to partner, fundraise, and participate in the annual Autism Speaks Walk can be found on the website or by calling the IL chapter line.
- Eligibility for Services Services are designed for individuals with Autism and their families.

On-Line Resources

- [2021 People In Need Forum Resource Directory](#)
- [McHenry Co Helping Numbers](#)
- [North Central Epilepsy Foundation](#)
- [Equip for Equality](#)
- [Family Matters-Parenting and Resource Center](#)
- [The ARC of Illinois](#)
- Facebook Groups:
 - Resource sharing and Advocacy from other families with our state/local area
 - "Special Needs Families Support Group McHenry County" (request to join)
 - "Illinois Parents of Adults with Developmental Disabilities United" (request to join)

Epilepsy Foundation - McHenry County

<http://epilepsyheartland.org/>

Psychiatric Services, Epilepsy & Traumatic Brain Injury Services
nmonica@efncil.org (815) 893-0709

Description of Services

Telemedicine, clinics, medical navigation, support groups, case management for McHenry County residents with epilepsy or concerns of epilepsy

- Residents of McHenry County with epilepsy or concerns of epilepsy.
- Diagnosis of epilepsy, traumatic brain injury or rule out epilepsy.
- Both insured and uninsured welcome

Learning Disabilities Association of Illinois (LDA)

<https://ldaillinois.org>

10101 South Roberts Road Suite 205
Palos Hills, IL 60465

- Monitors and advises on special education legislation at the federal and state levels
- Provides advocacy information and support to parents, learning disabled individuals and professionals
- Provides scholarships for post-secondary education for students with learning disabilities, as well as those individuals going into the field of teaching students with learning disabilities.
- Individuals- People with a learning disability; Professionals; Educators; School Membership
- Administrators; Family members or parents of individuals with learning disabilities.

McHenry County Mental Health Board

620 Dakota St. Crystal Lake, IL 60012
(815) 455.2828

Service directory

<https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-j-z/mental-health-board/service-directory>

CONTACT INFORMATION

D155 SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS SOCIAL WORK CONTACT

ALLISON COOK, MSW, MS.ED

acook@d155.org

(847) 639-3825 ext. 4315

STRIVE Transition Program (Prairie Ridge)

Functional Living Program (South)

Functional Communication Program (Cary-Grove)

NICOLE SHARKEY, MSW

nsharkey@d155.org

(815) 459-2505 ext. 2226

Life Skills Program (Central)

STRIVE Transition Program (Prairie Ridge)