

Parent and Student Checklist

- Obtain a copy of the Texas Transition & Employment Guide from www.texastransition.org
- Share information about your child's strengths, needs, and interests with school (possibly by completing a survey)
- Talk with your child about attending the ARD and participating during the transition portion
- Get on waiting lists for services from agencies as soon as possible
- Understand the difference in legal protections under IDEA (while in public school) and ADA (after leaving public education)
- Review a draft of the transition section of the IEP to make sure your ideas are included
- Give consent for agency representatives to attend ARDs
- Complete activities in the Coordinated Set of Activities/ Transition Services section of IEP
- Explore options for legal decision-making (guardianship, power of attorney, or supported decision making agreement), if needed, before age 18

LET'S CONNECT

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Transition Planning in the IEP

A Guide for Parents

Transition planning is a process, beginning no later than 14 years old, to help students with disabilities decide what they want to do after graduation, such as attend college, join the workforce, live independently, and become involved in the community. It also helps them figure out how to get there. The purpose of transition planning is to help students prepare to be independent young adults and help them move from public school to adult life.

Student and Parent Involvement

You and your child should be involved in the transition planning process. Your child must be invited to any ARD meeting where transition will be discussed.

This helps your child learn self-advocacy skills.

Transfer of Rights

At age 18, all legal rights transfer to the individual. Your child's IEP will include appropriate notices about this transfer (one year before turning 18 and upon turning 18)

The school will share resources related to guardianship/alternatives to help you determine what is appropriate for your child and family.

Transition Assessments

Tools to help your child discover her or his strengths, preferences, interests, and needs.

Helps you and your child think about life as an adult in the areas of employment, higher education and continued learning, independent living, and community participation.

Postsecondary Goals

Descriptions of what the student will be doing upon graduation, in the areas of education/ training, employment, and (where appropriate) independent living.

Shows what your child will be doing after they graduate from public education

Transition Planning Includes



Annual IEP Goals Related to Transition Needs

Skills your child will work on this year and will need to use in adulthood in the areas of postsecondary education or training, employment, and independent living (where applicable)

Identifies the skills your child can learn now in order to be successful in adulthood.

Coordinated Set of Activities

List of what needs to be done by student/ family/ school/ agency to prepare student for adulthood

Identifies what needs to be done, both in and outside of school, to make the postsecondary goals a reality. This is your "to do" list to help you and your child plan for the future.

Course of Study

Classes, including electives, your child will take each year that are aligned to her or his postsecondary goals

Gives clear picture of how your child will earn a diploma.

Agency Linkage

The school, with your consent, will invite other agencies to the ARD meeting

Involves agencies that may assist with or pay for services after your child exits public school and is no longer eligible for special education services

Summary of Performance

Shared when your child exits school, this document has information about your child's disability, supports that worked during high school, and recommendations to meet postsecondary goals

Helps you or your child to share information about their disability, needs, and skills with future employers, agencies, schools, and others

Self-Determination

Resources to foster independence and decision-making skills, as appropriate for each student

Helps your child learn and practice the skills they will need to become as independent as possible.

