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Transition Planning Timeline

The path leading to a successful transition from childhood to adulthood should begin much earlier than the teenage years. It starts when children learn about themselves, their strengths, and weaknesses. As a student approaches the time to leave high school, it is essential that preparations for adult life are well underway. The following is a series of events that may need to be considered during the student's transition process. The list is provided as a guideline and planning tool. All items will not be applicable to all students.

| | Action | Suggested Age Range |
|--|--|--------------------------|
| | Develop interests and build skills | Elementary - high school |
| | Career awareness | Elementary - high school |
| | Develop skills in self-advocacy and self-determination | Elementary - high school |
| | Work ethic and responsibility | Elementary - high school |
| | Making decisions and choices | Elementary - high school |
| | Explore community leisure activities and resources | Elementary - high school |
| | Apply for OPWDD services | Elementary - high school |
| | Administer initial vocational assessment | 12 |
| | Complete periodic vocational assessments | 12-21 |
| | Develop a career plan | 12-21 (any age) |
| | Consider employment/volunteer experience | 14-21 |
| | Participate in strength-based person centered planning | 12-21 |

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| | Notify parents that transition services will be incorporated into the IEP beginning at age 14 | 13 |
| | Introduce and discuss transition services. | 14 |
| | Include transition-related measurable goals on IEP | 14-21 |
| | Develop transition component of IEP and annually thereafter review and update. | 14-21 |
| | Assure that copies of work-related documents are available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social security card • birth certificate • obtain working papers (if appropriate) • obtain personal ID card | 14-21 |
| | Obtain parental consent so that the appropriate adult agency representatives can be involved | 14 |
| | Develop long-term adult outcomes with the student | 14-21 |
| | Develop Transportation/Mobility Strategies such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independent travel skills training • public or para-transit transportation • needs for travel attendant • obtaining a driver's license | 16-21 |
| | Apply for ACCES-VR Services | 16-21 |
| | Consider guardianship or age of majority issues | 16-18 |
| | Investigate post-school opportunities (further educational, vocational training, college, military, etc.) | 16-21 |
| | Apply for post-school college and other educational training programs | 17-21 |
| | Investigate SSDI/SSI/Medicaid programs | 12-21 |
| | Re-apply for SSI, as appropriate | 18 |
| | Review health insurance coverage; inform insurance company of son/daughter disability and investigate rider of continued eligibility | 18-21 |
| | Male students register for the draft. (no exceptions) | 18 |
| | Register to vote | 18 |