



Transition Program

Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education
"An educational community dedicated to transitioning young adults
with diverse abilities into adulthood"



What are the main components of the Transition Program?

Vocational Training:

- Students participate in on the job training with the support of a job coach.
- Transition has more than 40 different community based training sites in a variety of fields.
- Students have one job assignment each semester and work 2-4 days per week over the course of 90 days.
- Students receive a small stipend for each shift worked
- Job coaches support and observe the students as they increase their independence on job sites.
- Data is collected weekly and formal work evaluations are completed at the end of each semester to track student progress over time and familiarize them with the work evaluation process.

Community Access:

- Students learn the basics of community access including how to navigate to and from various community locations.
- Community access may include any or all of the following: use of public transportation, use of local grocery stores, public library services, post offices, local restaurants, laundromats, and more.

Curriculum/Core Transition Classes

- Classes at Transition are based on the Life Centered Education curriculum and are taught by licensed special education teachers using hands-on opportunities to build skills and fluency in our life skills curriculum.
- **Content Areas Include:**
 - Daily Living Skills: hygiene, safety, nutrition and food preparation, budgeting, personal wellness
 - Personal Social Skills: self awareness and advocacy, emotional management, disability awareness and advocacy, problem solving, interpersonal relationships and communication
 - Vocational Skills: vocational exploration, workplace safety and communication, job attainment and maintenance skills, customer service, and business and marketing skills
 - Functional Academics: personal finance and budgeting, life skills vocabulary, maintenance of basic comprehension and writing skills
 - Life Skills: Citizenship, digital awareness and safety, community access, recreation skills

Additional Transition Services

Vocational Coordinators:

- Match students to diverse on-the-job training sites
- Support students who are ready to obtain and retain competitive employment with community employers
 - Assist with job searches, completion of application, practice and coaching on interview skills, scheduling of interviews
 - Job coaching may be provided upon request to support a student during the the first few weeks of a competitive job

DRS Partnership

- Transition program partners with the Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
- Transition Specialists support students in career and job planning
- Students who participate in DRS services have a link to an adult service agency and a smooth transition to continued support in employment and education after completion of the Transition program

Transition Activities Checklist:

- Individualized walkthroughs and resources provided to assist with linkages to adult services agencies, resources, and services
- Updated annually and ongoing support provided as needed

Next Steps Programming:

- Transition schedules frequent evening workshops for parents, guardians, and students to explore and connect with services that students may need after exiting our program
- Topics include: Social Security, guardianship, Medicaid, adult living options, vocational and day programs, and more



Transition Program

www.swcccase.org
 Phone: (708) 873-1600
 Fax: (708) 873-1786



Locations	Administration	Program Secretaries
<p>Transition Main Campus 14535 John Humphrey Drive Orland Park, IL 60462</p> <p>Transition at Braun Satellite Campus 6020 W. 151st Street Oak Forest, IL 60452</p>	<p>Principal: Jennifer Gallus jgallus@swcccase.org</p> <p>Associate Principal: Julie Beasland jbeasland@swcccase.org</p> <p>Assistant Principal: Jennifer Corse jcorse@swcccase.org</p>	<p>Pam Ostrowski postrowski@swcccase.org</p> <p>Peggy Schillne pschillne@swcccase.org</p>

Related and Other Services

Transition provides the following services when determined by the IEP team.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech Language Pathology • Social Work • Occupational Therapy • Hearing/Vision Itinerant • Orientation & Mobility • Nursing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistive Technology • Behavioral supports • Extended School Year (ESY) Programming • Other services as determined by the IEP team |
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Travel Training

- Class trips via public transit to community location
- Training and presentations by public transport (AKA Pace bus, etc)
- Individualized travel training for students to navigate from home to competitive job sites

PBIS

- Transition uses Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports to provide all students with the tools they need to understand and apply behavioral expectations
- All students receive instruction and support in following school expectations and routines
- School-wide celebrations
- Restorative interventions in place for students required additional supports

Transportation

- Door-to-door transportation is provided by students' home districts

Transition Program FAQs

Who can attend Transition?

- Any student with an IEP may attend Transition after completing their high school programming.
- Our students come from many different high school programs including district and cooperative special education programs.
- Students benefit most from Transition when they need or want to develop skills for independence and adult success. This looks different for each of our learners.

Can I attend Transition if I already have a job or attend community college?

- Yes! Many of our students participate in the Transition program on a part time basis. We work with a student's work and/or community college schedule to build the best program to meet their remaining needs.

How long do I attend Transition?

- Students may continue to attend Transition until they turn 22 years old or have met all of their goals and objectives related to Transition needs. This is determined on a case by case basis and is reviewed at least annually.

Do I still need to register at my home district each year?

- Yes! Students attending Transition must still register annually with their home district. Home district representatives continue to be part of the IEP team.

When and who to contact at Transition?

If a student is eligible and interested in possibly attending the transition program, then the following steps are strongly recommended:

1. A member of the IEP team should invite a representative from SWCCCASE to the student's IEP meeting during their last year of traditional high school programming. This can be done by emailing Jennifer Corse at jcorse@swcccase.org, or by contacting Transition Program Secretary Pam Ostrowski when scheduling the IEP meeting.
2. Parents/Guardians and students are encouraged to schedule a tour of the Transition program. This can be done before or after the IEP meeting and is a great way to see the program in action. Tours are individualized for each student/family and include opportunities to visit classrooms, see the building, view a short presentation, and ask questions.
3. At any time, students, parents, and districts are encouraged to contact Transition with questions or concerns. Transition Program Assistant Principal, Jennifer Corse, serves as the primary contact for incoming or prospective Transition students.