


Transition From School to Adulthood

Project Launch

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Michigan Alliance for Families
information, support, and education

Transition From School to Adulthood



Project Launch
Project Launch helps children and young adults with disabilities pursue meaningful careers, live as independently as possible, and enjoy inclusion at work and in the community.

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Agenda

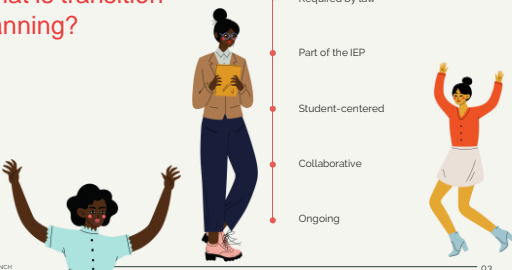
- Define transition planning and why it's important
- Review the transition planning process
- Review options for life after school
- Share community resources



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What is transition planning?



- Required by law
- Part of the IEP
- Student-centered
- Collaborative
- Ongoing

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Educational Development Plan

All students in 7th grade


- Explore interests and career goals
- Review and revise in 8th grade

Written by the counselor

- Education and career goals
- Reviewed and updated yearly

Used to plan for high school

- Connection between school and career
- High school course options



PROJECT LAUNCH 04

IDEA: The Law


Transition plans must include:

Data from transition assessments

Measurable postsecondary goals

Services to reach those goals

Information about transfer of rights



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Get students involved!

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Talk about interests and goals
- Prepare materials
- Practice
- Invite others

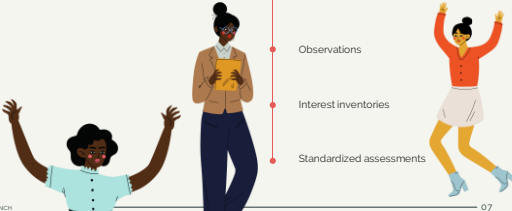
DURING THE MEETING

- Share strengths and interests
- Present and read from materials
- Ask questions and give opinions
- Lead the meeting

Have students attend IEP meetings, even just for a portion

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Transition Assessments



- Work samples
- Conversations with student and family
- Observations
- Interest inventories
- Standardized assessments


PROJECT LAUNCH 07

Postsecondary Goals

Long-term goals that are reviewed annually at the IEP

Goals must be written in 4 areas:

- Education
- Training
- Employment
- Independent Living



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Postsecondary Goal Examples

Education/Training

Attend a four-year college for business management.

Participate in on-the-job training at Detroit-Metro Airport.

Participate in a skill building program to focus on time management.

Employment


Work part-time at a pet store while attending a two-year college. After graduating, work full-time as a vet tech.

Work at the local hospital with a job coach.

Independent Living

Live independently in an apartment, schedule appointments, pay bills, and access services in the community by using the city bus.

Prepare for each day by dressing and feeding oneself with assistance.



PROJECT LAUNCH 09


Course of Study

Exiting with a diploma

- Michigan Merit Curriculum
- Personal Curriculum
- Career and technical education

Exiting without a diploma

- "Certificate of completion"
- No statewide curriculum
- Education through age 26
- Career and technical education



PROJECT LAUNCH 10


Transition Services

Activities to help the student achieve their postsecondary goals

Services must be:

Based on the student's needs, strengths, preferences, and interests.

Activities that the student and their community will complete.



PROJECT LAUNCH 11

Transition Services Examples

Training

Study skills training
Social skills training
Practice requesting accommodations

Education

Instruction and modeling in how to advocate for oneself in class
Direct instruction in math
Take a college tour

Employment

Learn to read and follow a daily visual schedule
Community work experience
Referral to vocational rehabilitation

Independent Living

Learn and master use of adaptive switches for kitchen appliances to prepare meals
Memorize phone number
Direct instruction in practical math skills



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Age of Majority

Transfer of Rights

Schools must tell students that when they turn 18, they are an adult and have certain rights.

This must happen on or before the student's 18th birthday

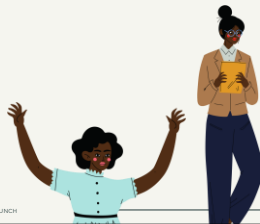


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Student Rights

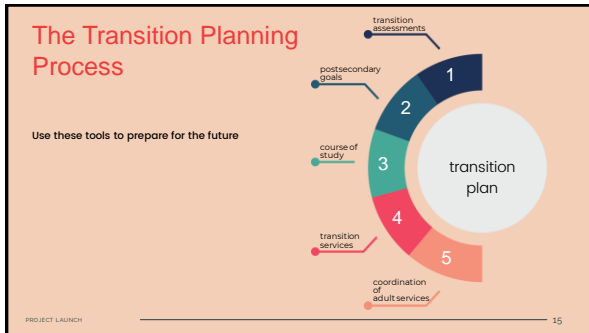
This list is not comprehensive



- The right to attend the IEP meeting
- The right to give permission for testing and evaluations
- The right to approve changes to the IEP
- The right to access school records
- The right to disagree with the IEP team

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Alternatives to Guardianship

Every person can make choices and has a right to make decisions

- Supported decision making agreements
- Power of Attorney
- Representative Payee (for social security benefits)

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Get a state ID

Register for the selective service

Register to vote

PROJECT LAUNCH 17

Applying for SSI and Medicaid

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- Income based first
- Comes with Medicaid
- Pays for food and shelter
- Standard monthly amount

Retirement, Survivors, Disability Insurance (RSDI)

- Insurance program for people who pay into the plan through payroll taxes
- Comes with Medicare
- Amount is based on work credits



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How to Apply

Go to
SSA.gov

Menu: Supplemental Security Income

Complete
the online
application

"Apply online for SSI and Disability Benefits"

Schedule in-
person
appointmentCall 800-772-1213
Bring the applicant, and copies of your
documents

Helpful tips:

- DO apply for SSI/Medicaid
- DO include food and shelter expenses
- DO schedule an in-person appointment
- DO appeal if you're denied
- Do NOT apply for SSDI
- Do NOT apply before age 18
- Do NOT include parents' income/assets

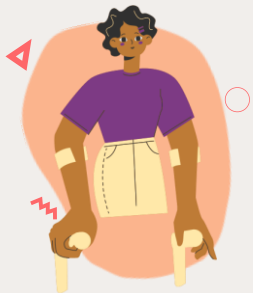
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Community Mental Health Services

The services and supports you need will mostly likely be paid for by Medicaid through the community mental health system

Supports Coordination	Skill Building
Paid staff	Supported Employment
Transportation	Peer supports



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How to Enroll

Michigan.gov/MDHHS

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Behavioral Health/Developmental Disability

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Mental Health

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Community Mental Health Services: map of programs

Or visit the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan:

cmham.org/membership/cmhsp-directory

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Options for Life After School

Paid employment

Skill-building programs

Supported employment

Community participation

A combination of things

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Putting It All Together

Paid Employment

- Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)
- Know your community and work together

Skill Building Program

- Sometimes called "day programs"
- Focused on skill development rather than immediate employment

Supported Employment

- Model of employment with support
- Job development and coaching
- Transportation

Community Participation

- Socialization and relationship building
- Community and recreational activities
- Maintaining health and safety

PROJECT LAUNCH 23

What's Your Vision?

Someone to love, something to do,
and something to look forward to



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Resources

The Arc's Center for Future Planning
futureplanning.thearc.org

Michigan Alliance for Families
michiganallianceforfamilies.org/transition

I'm Determined
imdetermined.org

Think College
thinkcollege.net

PACER
pacer.org/transition

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