


Transition From School to Adulthood




Michigan Alliance for Families
information, support, and education



Free parent training and information to improve educational services and outcomes for students with disabilities

800-552-4821
www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org



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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 (EDP)

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

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (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

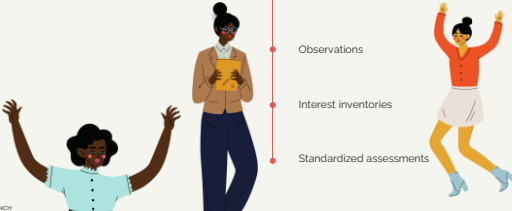
DURING THE MEETING

- 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

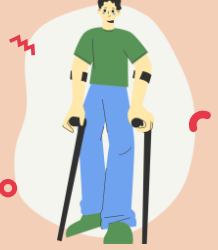
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Postsecondary Goals

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.



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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



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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.



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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.

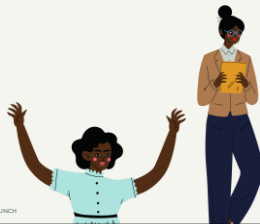
This must happen on or before the student's 17th birthday



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Student Rights

This list is not comprehensive



- The right to invite anyone they choose to their IEP meeting
- The right to give permission for testing and evaluations
- The right to provide input into the development of their IEP
- The right to access school records
- The right to disagree with the IEP team

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The Transition Planning Process

Use these tools to prepare for the future

transition assessments
1
2
3
4
5
postsecondary goals
course of study
transition services
coordination of adult services
transition plan

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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

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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](https://ssa.gov) Menu: Supplemental Security Income

Complete the online application "Apply online for SSI and Disability Benefits"

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

Helpful tips:

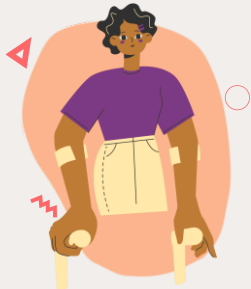
- DO apply for SSI/Medicaid
- DO include food and shelter expenses
- DO schedule an in-person appointment
- DO appeal if you're denied
- Do NOT apply for SSDI
- Do NOT apply before age 18
- Do NOT include parents' income/assets

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Community Mental Health Services

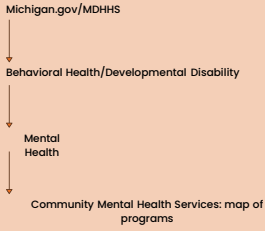
The services and supports you need will mostly likely be paid for by Medicaid through the community mental health system

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Supports Coordination | Skill Building |
| Paid staff | Supported Employment |
| Transportation | Peer supports |



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How to Enroll



Or visit the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan:
cmham.org/membership/cmhsp-directory

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Options for Life After School



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Putting It All Together

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Paid Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) • Know your community and work together | <p>Supported Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model of employment with support • Job development and coaching • Transportation |
| <p>Skill Building Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes called "day programs" • Focused on skill development rather than immediate employment. | <p>Community Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialization and relationship building • Community and recreational activities • Maintaining health and safety |



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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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We are here to support you!

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- /MichiganAlliance



For more information visit:
<https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org>

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Michigan Alliance for Families

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