

Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities

Understanding Transition Services in Transition Plans

Transition services are intended to prepare students to make the transition from the world of school to the world of adulthood. In developing a transition plan, the IEP team must consider a coordinated set of activities to assist the student in reaching his or her post-school goals. Coordinated activities are tasks or activities that students will complete to learn the skills and knowledge associated with each goal in his or her transition plan. These activities may take place in the school, at home, or in a community-based setting. More specifically, activities must be based on the individual student's needs, preferences, and interests. As such, the IEP team must consider and plan for:

- A functional vocational evaluation and course of training
- Acquisition of daily living skills (if appropriate)
- Any postsecondary education options
- Integrated employment, including supported employment
- Independent living goals and objectives
- Continuing and adult education
- Adult services
- Appropriate circumstances for referring a student or the student's parents to a governmental agency for services

In selecting each coordinated activity, the IEP team should:

- Ensure role clarity
- Ensure engagement
- Prepare the student for success
- Ensure responsiveness

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Employment Service Examples		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational guidance and counseling • Vocational, psychological, or other types of assessments • Assistance in obtaining employment (competitive, supported, or customized) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job development and placement • Technological services and adaptive devices, tools, equipment or supplies • Assistance to begin a new line of work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with work expenses the individual has as a result of their disability • Information and referral services • Connecting students with mentors who have with disabilities
Postsecondary Education Service Examples		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational training • Apprenticeship programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College training toward a vocational goal as part of an eligible student's financial aid package 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy training • College and career counseling
Adult and Independent Living Service Example		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing or transportation supports needed to maintain employment • Orientation and mobility services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services to access and obtain local services • Therapeutic recreation, including day activities and clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on independent living skills • Information and referral services

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Course of Study and Transition Planning

Students' transition plans must contain a description of the course of study necessary to assist the student in preparing for post-school activities. The course of study must ensure that the student has knowledge and skills to qualify for and successfully complete at least one of the following paths:

- Two- or four-year postsecondary education program
- Technical/vocational program
- Apprenticeship
- On-the-job training leading to a postsecondary credential

Non-Diploma Course of Study

The following procedures apply whenever an IEP team determines to place a student on a non-diploma course of study:

- The school must provide the parents with written notification that the student will be placed on a non-diploma course of study
- The school must provide information about the differences between a diploma and a non-diploma course of study
- The LEA should obtain written acknowledgement that the parent(s) has been informed and understand that the student will be placed on a non-diploma course of study

For additional resources on transition services and other information about the transition planning process, please visit:

- [OSSE's Secondary Transition Process Toolkit](#)
- [OSSE Secondary Transition Website](#)
- [The Best Me I Can Be](#)