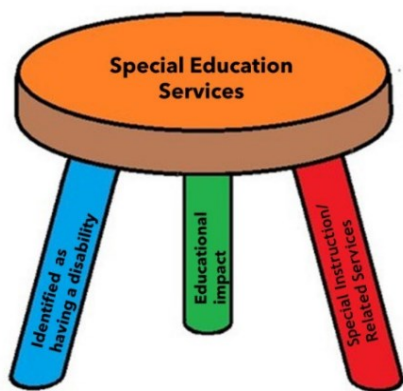


Exiting IEP Services and Supports

A Guide for Families and Graduating Students

You and your student's educational team have made the decision that he/she no longer qualifies for services and supports through special education. This guide provides valuable information about transition supports that may be helpful as he/she gets older and begins planning for life beyond high school.

Qualifying for Special Education Services



There are three criteria that needed to be met for your student to be placed on an IEP.

- ◇ First, he/she was determined to have one of the thirteen categories of disability under IDEA.
- ◇ Second, there was a demonstrated impact to learning caused by the disability.
- ◇ Finally, it was determined that specialized instruction and supports were needed for your student to make adequate progress on the goals and objectives outlined in the IEP and in the coursework through each grade.

While your student's disability may no longer impact educational progress and specialized instruction and supports may no longer be needed through special education, your child may still have a disability that may require supports through other community resources outside of the school setting.

For example, a student with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who would like a part time job as a teenager, may benefit from help getting and keeping a job, such as a job coach. There are supports from other state and community agencies that may help.

Also, did you know that your student could be evaluated for TRANSITION?

This guide provides a brief description of some of the state and community agencies that may be of help as your student gets older.

Preparing for Life after High School

You and your student's educational team have made the decision that he/she no longer qualifies for services and supports through special education. This guide provides valuable information about transition supports that may be helpful as your student gets older and begins planning for life beyond high school.

When a student has a disability, it is beneficial to be well informed about your student's rights and responsibilities as well as the responsibilities post secondary schools have toward them. It is also important to be aware of community resources that may be available to ensure your child has a full opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the post secondary education experience.

While a student's disability may no longer impact educational progress and specialized instruction and supports may no longer be needed through special education, he/she may still have a disability that may require supports through other community resources outside of the school setting.



What Constitutes a Disability When Entering Post Secondary Education?

A student must meet two criteria to be eligible for an accommodation.

- ♦ First, the student must meet the essential or requisite eligibility requirements of the program, service, or activity in which he or she wishes to participate with or without an accommodation. This means that the student must meet the requisite eligibility requirements despite his or her disability.
- ♦ Second, the student must have a documented disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or the Rehabilitation Act.

Differences in Rights and Responsibilities of High School Students with Disabilities Compared to Students with Disabilities Entering Post Secondary School Settings

Prior to applying to a post secondary institution, if a student needs academic adjustments you will need to have proper documentation to support the existence of a current disability. While still in high school, a vocational rehabilitation (VR) agency or high school personal can help with this.

A transition plan can include a summary of performance (SOP) that includes recommendations on how to help graduates meet their post secondary goals; this document may help students obtain accommodations in college or vocational rehabilitation services.

Student Responsibilities

Along with active participation in transition planning in high school, graduating students need to consider the following:

- ♦ As you inquire about college, take time to meet with the Disability Coordinator to discuss support needs and how those will be implemented in their course of study.
- ♦ Students are responsible to self-identify and to obtain disability services at college.
- ♦ Modifications are not implemented into the college setting. Students can ask for accommodations.



Early preparedness is key to a successful transition. Other practices that increase a student's potential for success include student involvement, self-advocacy, goal setting, self-monitoring, and self-determination.

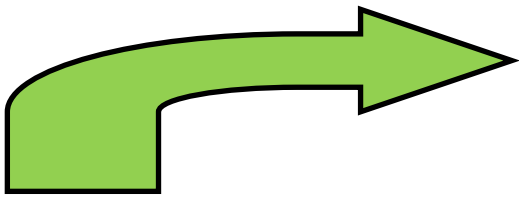
College isn't the only path to an independent, happy, and self-determined life, but it is a place where students can:

- ♦ make new friends
- ♦ learn to ask for accommodations
- ♦ acquire and strengthen new skills
- ♦ expand their ability to set and work toward goals
- ♦ balance work with a social life
- ♦ build a sense of self
- ♦ connect new skills and information to real-life adult outcomes
- ♦ formulate a vision of their desired future

Post secondary education can be pursued through avenues such as public or private colleges, universities, community colleges, technical colleges, and business and traditional schools. Post secondary schools have staff specifically assigned to counsel students with disabilities. Check out the information from Transition Services Liaison Project.

<https://tslp.org/post-secondary-education/>





What can students do to prepare for post secondary education prior to high school graduation?

There are some special events in our state for students prior to graduation that are available:

♦ **Catch the Wave- Transition Liaison Project (TSLP)**

A conference designed specifically for high school students with disabilities considering post secondary education

♦ **Youth Leadership Forum-Transition Liaison Project (TSLP)**

Training for high school students with disabilities focusing on developing leadership and self-advocacy skills.

♦ **Summer Transition Program-Independent Living Choices (ILC)**

(Early registrations- watch the websites!)

What state and community agencies are available to provide resources to help students with disabilities as they move toward post secondary education and a more independent living lifestyle?

Transition Services Liaison Project (TSLP)

The mission of the Transition Services Liaison Project is to enable students with disabilities to reach their maximum potential in their transition from high school to the adult world. They provide support and technical assistance to students, families, and local education agencies seeking information on transition planning.

Post Secondary Disability Services Offices:

<https://bit.ly/PSDISOFFICES>

Educational Opportunities in South Dakota

<https://bit.ly/SDEDOPP>

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

The Vocational Rehabilitation program is part of the services and supports offered through the South Dakota Department of Human Services Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS).

They work closely with individuals to determine a specific and individualized plan for employment.



Independent Living Choices (ILC)

Independent Living Choices is an organization that helps individuals with a disability access the community, employment, and many other areas of life that allows them independence.

Services and Programs

- Independent Living skills
- Peer support group
- Adaptive Devices Program
- Advocacy
- Home modifications
- Assistive Daily Living Services Program

ILC All Service Area Brochure

<https://bit.ly/ILCbrochure>

ILC- Tribal Nations Brochure

<https://bit.ly/ILCtribal>



South Dakota Department of Labor

The Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) provides training and education cross the state to help individuals attain sustainable employment.

Career Launch is dedicated to helping young adults discover what makes them great and leads them down a path for success. They can help with:

- Resume/Cover Letter Writing
- Applications
- Interviewing Skills
- Soft Skills
- Career Exploration
- Job Search
- Work Experience
- On-the -job Training
- Financial Awareness

Learn more at: <https://bit.ly/SDdeptoflabor>



South Dakota Benefits Specialist Network

This network provides the education and tools to empower and encourage people in the state of South Dakota receiving Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance benefits to re-establish their self-sufficiency.

They help people receiving supplemental security income and social security disability insurance understand how work will impact their benefits.

For more information: <https://dlr.sd.gov/>



Resources

SD Statewide Family Engagement Center

(605) 484.3401

www.sdsfec.org

South Dakota Parent Connection

(800) 640.4553

www.sdparent.org

- What Parents Should Know About Special Education in South Dakota
<https://bit.ly/SDSpEdguide>
- Parent Brief- Accommodations and Modifications
<https://bit.ly/42QpQux>

Vocational Rehabilitation

Department of Human Services

(605) 773.5990

www.dhs.sd.gov/rehabservices.vr

Independent Living Choices

(605) 362.3550

www.ilcchoices.org

Transition Services Liaison Project

(800) 224.5336

www.tslp.org

South Dakota Benefits Specialist Network

(800) 224.5336 ext 1521

www.bsnsd.org

South Dakota Department of Labor

(605) 773.3101

www.dlr.sd.gov

National Association of School Psychologists

- 504: A Guide for Parents and Educators
<https://bit.ly/3pVjQCj>

National Center for Learning Disabilities

- Transitioning to Life After High School
<https://bit.ly/3Mi8cZH>

US Department of Education

Office of Civil Rights

(800)872.5327

- Transition of Students With Disabilities to Postsecondary Education: A Guide for High School Educators
<https://bit.ly/3oplGuB>



SOUTH DAKOTA
ParentConnection
Resources for families of children with disabilities.

SOUTH DAKOTA
STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTER

