

ADULT AGENCY LINKAGES

Department of Developmental Services

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/departement-of-developmental-services>

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-for-the-blind>

Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-commission-for-the-deaf-and-hard-of-hearing>

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-rehabilitation-commission>

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Federation for Children with Special Needs

<https://fcsn.org/pti/events-calendar/>

Multicultural Community Services

www.mcsnet.org/training

Department of Developmental Services

Annual Transition Event. Ask your Transition Coordinator for date and location.

These services / organizations are resources for you to explore. They have not been endorsed by MCS. You may suggest additional resources or send comments on these listings to info@mcsnet.org

1000 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, MA 01109



Transition: Turning 22



Resources to improve the future of youth transitioning from high school to employment, day programs, independent living or supported living.

Springfield Family Support Center
1000 Wilbraham Road
Springfield MA 01109
Tel : 413-782-2500

Holyoke Family Support Center
260 Westfield Road
Holyoke MA 01040
Tel: 413-534-3299

MCS SOS of Springfield
505 E. Columbus Avenue
Springfield MA 01105
Tel: 413-301-7390

Westfield Office
3 State Street
Westfield MA 01085
Tel: 413-562-4885

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[@multiculturalcommunityservices](https://instagram.com/multiculturalcommunityservices)

Transition...

It's a Process

“Transition is a bridge between the security and structure offered by the school and the opportunities and risks of adult life. Any bridge requires both a solid span and secure foundation at either end. The transition from school to work and adult life requires sound preparation in the secondary school, adequate support at the point of school leaving, and secure opportunities and services, if needed, in adult situations.”

- Madeline Will, parent

What are Transition Services?

Transition services are the services school districts must provide to transition-age students in special education to prepare them for post-secondary education, employment, and independent living. The necessary transition services vary from student to student according to their own unique needs. Transition services start at age 14 and conclude at the 22nd birthday.

Oftentimes, this is a period of anxiety and confusion for families. There are many new rules to understand, new people and agencies to get to know and form relationships with, and unknown situations to face. Your DDS Transition Coordinator will work with your family throughout the transition process.

Transition Topics

- Age of Majority (Representative Payee/Health Care Proxy/Power of Attorney/Conservatorship/Guardianship)
- Community Day Planning
- DDS Eligibility
- Employment and Transportation
- Futures Planning
- Jury Duty and Selective Service
- Living Situation
- MCAS Testing
- Medical transition
- Post-secondary education
- Public Benefits (Social Security / SSI, MassHealth, Food Stamps)
- School to work
- Self-advocacy and determination
- The Individual Transition Plan (DDS)
- Transition Planning Form (TPF)
- 688 Referral — Transition Planning Law

TRANSITION RESOURCES

Federation for Children with Special Needs

A Family Guide to Transition Services in Massachusetts

<https://fcsn.org/transition-planning-real/>

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transition Planning Form

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/secondary-transition>

Department of Developmental Services

School Days to Pay Days

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/school-days-to-pay-days/download>

LOCAL RESOURCES

Stavros - Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP)

www.stavros.org/tap-program

Center for Human Development - Making Health Connections

www.chd.org