Transition Turning 22

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

ADULT AGENCY LINKAGES

Department of Developmental Services
www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dds

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcb

Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcdhh

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mrc

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Federation for Children with Special Needs
fcsn.org/ptic/events

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. Please contact Michael Romanovitch at: (413) 782-2500 or michaelro@mcsnet.org to comment on these listings or to suggest additional resources.
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.

Often times, 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
www.fcsn.org/transition_guide/english.pdf

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Transition Planning Form
www.doe.mass.edu/sped/links/transition

Department of Developmental Services
The Road Forward, A Guide to Transition Planning

LOCAL RESOURCES

Stavros - Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP)
www.stavros.org/tap-program.html

Center for Human Development - Making Health Connections
www.chd.org