



Transition Planning Checklist

Planning Steps for Ages 16-20

Transitioning is a growing period for all involved. Watching a young person try different paths is both exciting and challenging. Trusting the community, relying on others, and believing in the adult system are big steps for those who have been filling these roles for the past number of years. Transition planning is a nice way to move towards these new partnerships. It is our hope that the following information will provide a guided path to enhance your family's journey and begin some of these partnerships.

At Age 16:

- Connect with your Family Support Service Coordinator (FSSC)
- Begin to create a picture of what resources are available when your son/daughter turns 21 years old
- Identify personal learning styles and accommodations for learning and working.
- Explore new opportunities in your surrounding community
- Discuss taking on new responsibilities to develop decision making-skills.
- Discuss Graduation options i.e: Certificate vs. Diploma
- Continue to be involved in the IEP process
- Request a Vocational Evaluation to help identify interests
- Apply to Vocational Rehabilitation for vocational planning
- Obtain a non-driver's ID
- Begin to explore local transportation options
- Advocate staying in school until you have completed a transition plan that prepares your son/daughter for adult life and learn about different resources available in your area.

At Age 17:

- Learn about Social Security and Medicaid Benefits
- Discuss Guardianship and alternatives to guardianship
- Make appropriate arrangements for financial resources (special needs trust etc.)
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events: ___ vendor fair, ___ transition workshop, ___ SPECS, ___ Webinar, ___ Benefits
- Advocate staying in school until you have completed a transition plan that prepares your son/daughter for adult life and learn about different resources available in your area.

At Age 18:

- Apply for Social Security and Medicaid benefits
- Complete the Guardianship process as needed
- Send copies of Guardianship once completed to Gateways Community Services, schools, medical professionals, etc.

Planning Steps for Ages 16-20 (cont.)

- Register for Selective Service (for males)
- Register to vote
- Advocate staying in school until you have completed a transition plan that prepares your son/daughter for adult life and learn about different resources available in your area.
- Provide Gateways with Medicaid number
- Work on creating a vision for future services through Person Centered Planning with your FSSC.
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events: ___ vendor fair, ___ transition workshop, ___ SPECS, ___ Webinar, ___ Benefits

At Age 19:

- Continue creating a vision for future services through Person Centered Planning with your FSSC.
- Work with FSSC to provide information about Vendor Agencies.
- Tour and connect with Gateways Community Services preferred vendors for future services
- Participate in Gateways Community services transition events: ___ vendor fair, ___ transition workshop, ___ SPECS, ___ Webinar, ___ Benefits for Ages 16-20 (cont.)
- Advocate staying in school until you have completed a transition plan that prepares your son/daughter for adult life and learn about different resources available in your area.

At Age 20:

- Complete an Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) or Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) evaluation through Gateways Community Services.
- Connect with your FSSC to complete waiting list documentation for future adult services.
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events: ___ vendor fair, ___ transition workshop, ___ SPECS, ___ Webinar, ___ Benefits
- Work with FSSC to develop a support plan to meet specific needs for age 21 that align with your vision.
- Ask school team to create an information sheet (discharge summary) covering what would be helpful for new team to know.
- If you have a resume (paid employment, volunteer and work experiences), make sure that it is updated
- Continue to work with Vocational Rehabilitation as needed
- Obtain current evaluations prior to moving on to adult services.
- Advocate staying in school until you have completed a transition plan that prepares your son/daughter for adult life and learn about different resources available in your area.

This is the first in a series of mailings that will be sent to assist young adults and their families through the Transition Process. If you have any questions and/or need further information, please speak with your Gateways Community Services, Family Support Service Coordinator at 882-6333.

Please watch for our next “Transitioning Together” mailing.