



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) or Customer Services Agency (CSA)
- 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.
- Work with your FSSC to complete the Projected Service Needs List Request for services.
- 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.
- Learn about the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS).
- Provide Gateways with Medicaid number and sign Consent to Bill form

At Age 17:

- Learn about Social Security and Medicaid Benefits
- Discuss Guardianship and alternatives to guardianship. Make application by 17.5 years of age
- Make appropriate arrangements for financial resources (special needs trust etc.)
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events
- 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 and sign Consent to Bill form

Planning Steps for Ages 16-20 (cont.)

At Age 18:

- Apply for Social Security Income
- Apply for Medicaid benefits (Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled APTD)
- Complete the Guardianship process if not already applied
- Send copies of Guardianship Decree to Gateways Community Services, schools, medical professionals, etc.
- 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 and sign Consent to Bill form
- Work on creating a vision for future services through Person Centered Planning with your FSSC.
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events: ___ Vendor Fair ___SPECS

At Age 19:

- Continue creating a vision for future services through basic Person Centered Planning with your FSSC.
- Tour and connect with Gateways Community Services preferred vendors for future services
- Look to the school and community to explore work experience opportunities.
- Participate in Gateways Community services transition events
- 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 the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) evaluation through Gateways Community Services to be eligible to receive long term funding if funding is available.
- Connect with your FSSC to update the Projected Service Needs List for future long term funding.
- Work with FSSC to develop a support plan of services that aligns with your vision and Projected Service Needs List request.
- Participate in Gateways Community Services transition events.
- 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 and you have references.
- Apply 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 or Customer Services Agency at 882-6333.