

5 Ws of Transition plans:

- Who? Youth with IEPs
- What? Transition Plans
- Where: Highschool
- When? By age 16
- Why? To promote independence

Why are Transition Plans needed and How are they created?

- ❖ According to Section 1401 of The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), they are "...a results-oriented process, which is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities..."
- ❖ They are created "...based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests..."

What are the components of a Transition Plan?

- Transition plan forms are included with the IEP document.
- Can include employment/education/independent living assessments, post-secondary goals, transition services and activities, courses of study, annual IEP goals, coordinated services with adult agencies, etc.

When and where should transition planning begin and plans be in place?

- ❖ Transition planning is recommended to begin by at least by age 14 in high school.
- ❖ A transition IEP must be in place by age 16 and can be held together or separately from the regular IEP.

Who should be included in the Transition IEP?

- The student must be invited and should be as involved as much as possible.
- The parent or guardian
- The other IEP team members may include LEA, Special Education Teacher, Regular Education Teacher, Speech, and other therapists if appropriate.
- Representative of participating agency likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services

****Unless guardianship is established for the parent to make decisions for the student, once they turn 18, the IEP rights of the parent transfers to the student****

Assessments and Goals:

- ❖ The most important parts of assessments and transition goals are that they are age and developmentally appropriate for the student.
- ❖ And according to IDEA and the 504 Rehabilitation Act, assessments and transition goals must be "outcome results-oriented" and include all supports and services to achieve those outcomes.

Resources:

- <https://thecenterforexceptionalfamilies.org/programs/youth-in-transition/>
- <https://www.independentfuturesthatwork.com/>

