

Ohio State Supports and Services

Dept. of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) 1-800-617-6733 <http://odmrdd.state.oh.us/>

Ohio Coalition For The Education of Children With Disabilities (OCECD) 1800-374-2806
<http://www.ocecd.org/>

Easter Seals-Central and SouthEast Ohio 1-800-860-5523 Northern Ohio 440-324-6600
<http://centralohio.easterseals.com> <http://noh.easterseals.com>

Ohio Help Me Grow 614-644-8389 <http://www.ohiohelpmegrow.org/>

Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 877-852-0010 <http://jfs.ohio.gov/>

Ohio Dept. of Education-Special Education 877-644-6338
<http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEPrimary.aspx?page=2&TopicID=967&TopicRelationID=967>

Ohio Legal Rights Service (OLRS) 800-282-9181 <http://www.ols.ohio.gov/>

Assistive Technology of Ohio (ATOHIO) 800-784-3425 <http://www.atohio.org/>

ARC of Ohio 800-875-2723 <http://www.thearcofohio.org/>

Ohio Association of Adult Services (OAAS) 614-261-7879 <http://oaas.org/index.html>

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency (OODA) 800-282-4536
<http://ood.ohio.gov/>

Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) 800-766-7426 <http://ddc.ohio.gov>

People First Ohio 740-397-6100 <http://www.peoplefirstohio.org/>

Nisonger Center 614-292-0775 <http://nisonger.osu.edu/>

Ohio Association of County Boards 614-431-0616 <http://oacbdd.org>

Social Security/Supplemental Security Income (SSI) <http://ssa.gov/work>

Ohio Medicaid 877-852-0010 <http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/>

Developed based on the Washington State Adolescent Health Transition Project's
"Transition Timeline for Children and Adolescents with Special Needs."

Transition Timeline for Adolescents and Teens with Developmental Disabilities

Children and Families experience many transitions, large and small, over the years. Some predictable transitions occur: when children transition out of early intervention services, when they move from preschool to kindergarten, when they approach adolescence, and when children move from adolescence to adulthood. Other transitions children make include moving into new programs, working with new agencies and care providers, and making new friends. **Transitions all involve changes: adding new expectations, routines and responsibilities, while letting go of others.**

As a parent of a child with special needs, disabilities and or developmental delays, you may be caught up in day to day survival. You might ask; "How can I think about tomorrow when I'm just trying to make it through today?" But when those moments come when you can catch your breath, it may be helpful to be aware of those transitions and allow yourself to think about the future.

Tips: Review the timeline and identify where you and your child are. Pick a place for action- YOU CAN'T DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE. Try linking with others who have already transitioned.

Transition Timeline for Children and Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities

By age 12-18, or according to your child's ability:

- Assess your teen's perception and basic knowledge of his/her special needs. Fill in understanding.
- Continue teaching your teen age-appropriate self-help skills as well as skills related to their special need. Continue teaching self-advocacy skills.
- Begin helping your teen keep a record of his/her medical history, including conditions, operations, treatments, doctors and IEP, if on an IEP.
- Encourage teen to participate in IEP meetings.
- Begin helping your teen take responsibility for making/keeping medical appointments, ordering his/her own supplies, etc.
- Begin exploring health care coverage for your young adult.
- Emphasize importance of physical fitness.
- Discuss relationships and sexuality with your teen.
- Help your teen identify and build his/her strengths.
- Explore support groups, if teen is interested.
- Begin to explore and talk about possible career interests with our teen.
- Help your teen find work and volunteer opportunities.
- Continue to allow your teen to help with family chores. This will instill work ethic.
- Continue to encourage hobbies and leisure activities.
- Help your teen identify and be involved with adult or older teen role models.
- Begin, with your teen, looking for an adult health care provider.

By Age 14

- Your child's IEP must involve a transition plan for post-secondary goals. Your teen should be involved in this transition plan.
- Focus on Interagency Collaboration or linkages. Invite a DD rep to the IEP meeting
- Begin looking at work support needs with your ISC and BVR Counselor. (Discuss with ISC about what BVR is)

- By Age 16** -Your Teen's IEP must include measurable post-secondary goals and must include means of assessment for transition objectives.
- Determine eligibility for Adult Services through County Board of DD.

By Age 17:

- Begin exploring health care financing.
- Investigate need for guardianship and other options for legal protection.
- If appropriate, begin guardianship procedures 2 months before the teen turns 18.
- Notify the student of rights that will transfer to him/her on reaching the age of majority (18).

By age 18-21, or according to your child's ability:

- If young adult is on an IEP, continue to encourage participation in IEP meeting and transition planning with IEP team, including employment and adult life activities.
- Act as a resource and support to young adult.
- Encourage Young adult to participate in support groups and/or organizations relevant to his/her special needs and interests.
- Finalize health care plan with young adult.
- With young adult, finalize transfer of medical care to adult provider.

By Age 18:

- Check eligibility for SSI the month the teen turns 18.
- Investigate SSI work incentives such as Ticket to Work.
- Obtain Picture ID from local BMV.
- Males must register for selective services.

By Age 21

- Notify County Board of DD for adult vocational services.