

Region IV Timeline for Supporting an Individual through Transition

“Transition is the passage from one stage of development to another. For young adults with disabilities this transition stage is critical to the rest of their lives. It requires preparation.”

-J. Cobb (modified)

- Apply for Early Intervention Services (Part C) 0-3 years at Family Outreach
- Obtain diagnosis for child

- ***If student was not part of early intervention services speak with AWARE or Family Outreach to **obtain DD eligibility to be on 0208 wait list. This can happen as early as 8 years' old.**
- Participate in the planning, development, and implementation of your child's IEP
- Teach functional skills when developmentally appropriate in school and at home. (Examples: sorting items, social skills, taking turns, cooking, doing laundry)
- Support academic skills and identify academic strengths
- Learn to use assistive technology if appropriate
- Encourage involvement in age appropriate recreational activities
- Introduce and encourage self-advocacy skills

***Note: Diagnosis can take place at any age. Since waiting lists for waiver and waiver service can extend for years, it is best to apply for the waiver as soon as diagnosis occurs, whether that happens at 2 or 17.

- Sign up for Vocational Rehabilitation. Student will qualify for Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Meet with Developmental Disabilities Case Management to discuss what supports might be available, if applicable
- Find opportunities for community involvement. (examples: volunteer positions, job shadowing, or extracurricular activities)
- Continue practicing functional social skills-work toward independence (examples: grocery shopping, taking public transit, menu planning, budgeting money, hygiene)
- Teach responsibility and self-advocacy for health care (taking medications, talking with a doctor, making and keeping appointments) and should be continued into adulthood.

- Meet with IEP team to create transition goals (in Montana team must be in place by age 16)
- Make sure case management services are in place through Family Outreach, AWARE, HI Case Management, ORI, or the State of Montana and student is on the waiting list for services (if appropriate)
- Keep all appointments with Vocational Rehabilitation (or sign up if you haven't already)
- Identify school programs or workplaces that are a good match for the student's goals and abilities
- Encourage independence and reduce prompting wherever possible
- Continue practicing social and functional skills during the school day and at home
- Family should begin discussing where the student wants to live after high school. (some housing has long waitlists)
- If appropriate, Parents should look into alternative forms of guardianship (limited guardianship or limited power of attorney; guardianship should be a last option as it removes all rights of the person)
- Promote financial literacy (review credit cards, debt, budgeting, etc)
- Obtain State ID or Driver's License
- Explore adult medical providers

- Register to vote
- If student was eligible for Supplemental Security Income under the definition of disability for children, you must have the eligibility redetermined upon age 18. Contact your local office SSA to make this appointment
- Make sure student is on the waiting list for the Developmental Disabilities Waiver (0208) and that case management services are in place (if appropriate)
- Keep appointments with Vocational Rehabilitation. Create employment plan based on strengths and interests
- Teach responsibility and self-advocacy for health care (taking medications, talking with a doctor, making and keeping appointments)
- Encourage independence when practicing social and functional skills
- Contact outside agencies such as Montana Independent Living Project for transition support
- Prepare for interviews and complete applications for employment or colleges/training programs

18 mo – 5 yrs old

6-14 years old

14-15 years old

15-17 years old

18-21 years old

Important Contacts and Resources for Transition

AWARE Inc:

(800) 432-6145

Local Number/Contact:

Helena: (406) 449-3120

Bozeman: (406) 587-1181

Butte: (406) 782-0455

Developmental Disability Services:

(877) 296-1197

Local Number/Contact:

Helena: (406) 444-2995

Bozeman: (406) 587-6066

Butte: (406) 496-4922

Disability Rights Montana:

(800) 245-4743

Family Outreach:

Helena Area: (406) 444-1714

Bozeman Area: (406) 587-2477

Butte Area: (406) 494-1242

Contact:

HI Case Management (DD):

Bozeman Area: (406) 587-7703

Butte Area: (406) 782-9244

Contact:

Helena Case Management Services (DD)

State Case Management: (406) 444-1304

Opportunity Resources (ORI): (406) 449-2953

Contact:

Montana Independent Living Project:

(800) 735-6457

Local Number/Contact:

Helena: (406) 442-5755

Bozeman: (406) 522-7300

Butte: (406) 782-4834

Office of Public Assistance (SNAP, MEDICAID):

(888) 706-1535

Contact:

PLUK (Parents Let's Unite for Kids)

(800) 222-0523

Local Number/ Contact:

*Call the 800# for your local contact

Social Security Office:

Helena: (800) 772-1213

Bozeman: (866) 563-9496

Butte: (888) 632-7068

Contact:

Vocational Rehabilitation:

(877) 296-1197

Local Number/Contact:

Helena: (406) 444-2590

Bozeman: (406) 587-0601

Butte: (406) 496-4925

Acronyms:

DD: Developmental Disability

IEP: Individualized Education Plan

VR: Vocational Rehabilitation

SSA: Social Security Administration

The current definition of a "developmental disability" in the State of Montana (following changes made by the 63rd legislature:2013-2014) is provided below: "Developmental disabilities" means disabilities attributable to intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or any other neurologically disabling condition closely related to intellectual disability and requiring treatment similar to that required by intellectually disabled individuals if the disability originated before the individual attained age 18, has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and results in the person having a substantial disability. Reference: Montana Code Annotated, 53-20-202(3), MCA

Helpful Websites

www.pluk.org

montanayouthtransitions.org

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/developmentaldisabilities>

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/OfficeofPublicAssistance.aspx>

mtccd.org

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/vocrehab>

www.familyoutreach.org

www.milp.us

<https://www.helenaindustries.org/case-management/>

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/youthtransitions/links>