



PREPARING FOR THE IEP MEETING: FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

As a school counselor, you have valuable perspectives and insights to offer when discussing transition topics during IEP meetings. This planning sheet will help you know what to expect and how you can contribute.

What Should I Know About a Transition IEP Meeting?

- Beginning with the first IEP to be in effect after the student turns 14, IEPs and meetings will begin to focus on the student's goals for after high school in education/training, employment, and independent living.
- IEP team members include the student, his/her parents or guardians, their special education teacher, general education teachers, yourself, and representatives from adult disability service agencies. Other team members might include a speech, occupational, and/or physical therapist. The student can invite anyone important to them who can provide relevant information related to post-school goals.
- Members of the team will vary depending on the individual student's needs.
- The team will identify goals and services that will help the student achieve those outcomes, and keep track of the student's progress on those goals.
- Each team member will have individual responsibilities and things they can do to contribute.
- The IEP will include a projected list of courses the student will be taking throughout their entire high school years.

How Can I Help?

- Help ensure the student is taking appropriate classes for their particular diploma pathway.
- Share available courses that might help the student make progress towards their postsecondary goals.
- Provide information on postsecondary opportunities.
- Assist the teacher with administering transition assessments.
- Communicate the results of assessments with the rest of the transition planning team.
- Offer counseling (including career counseling) and conflict resolution services to families.
- Suggest extracurricular or other school activities that might be relevant to the student's annual or post-school goals.
- Identify activities or programs through which the student might gain leadership, self-advocacy, or other self-determination skills.