



## CHOICE AND DECISION MAKING AND THE IEP

Choice and decision making can effectively be implemented during the IEP process. These two skills can be cultivated during assessments, person centered planning, drafting the IEP, and in creating the student's school schedule. Students should have the opportunities to infuse their IEP with the different choices and decisions they have made themselves.

- Allow students to have choices in experiences
  - Students should be exposed to multiple career fields/options through job sampling, internships, and apprenticeships. Students need to be aware of different careers and understand what they entail to compare and make choices based on interests and preferences.
- Person Centered Planning
  - Planning should be based on the individual's choices and decisions and based around their preferences, interests, strengths, and needs.
- Building a Schedule
  - At the high school and transition level, students should have more control in building their own schedule. This includes taking classes in areas that both interest them and pave the way for their future (whether that is for a job or higher education).
  - Students should have a say in the internships and placements for their life after school
- Assessments
  - Assess the students' preferences and interests as related to the various transition areas such as independent living, recreation, career, etc.
  - Administer career aptitude and interest tests to expose new areas/career options that students may not have previously known about