



### Preparing for the IEP Meeting: Students

As a student, you are the star of the show 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-Focused IEP Meeting?

- The IEP meeting is about planning for your future.
- Once you are 14, you will still discuss how you are doing in school, but the focus of the IEP meeting will be on your life after high school.
- Beginning at age 14, the law says you must be invited to your IEP meetings.
- It's important to go to your IEP meetings. At the meeting, the team will make decisions about your future, and you know yourself best. Your voice needs to be heard.
- You have input on who gets to attend the meeting. Typically, your team includes you, your family members or guardians, your special education teacher, at least one of your other teachers, a school administrator or someone from the school district, and people from agencies that can help you when you leave high school.
- Each team member will have assigned responsibilities.
- The team will talk about your strengths and needs in the areas of employment, postsecondary education/training, independent living, and community involvement.
- The team will identify goals and services that will help you be able to live, work, or study where you want when you leave high school.
- When you turn 18, you are an adult and have the right to make your own decisions unless your family members have a conservatorship, Power of Attorney, or other rights-granting authority. At that point, you can decide if you want to invite your family or not.
- Remember: This meeting is about you!

#### How Can I Help?

- Brainstorm who you want to invite to the meeting.
- Lead as much of the meeting as you'd like; your special education teacher can help you prepare for what you need to do in the meeting.
- Welcome everyone to the meeting and make introductions.
- Share your strengths, interests, preferences, and needs.
- Talk about how school has been for you the past year and what you hope to continue working on in the next year.



- Decide on relevant and achievable goals for after you leave high school.
- Share any classes you would like to take in high school to help you reach your goals.
- Inform the team of the supports and services you need to be successful.
- Share ideas and respond to others' ideas.
- Identify tasks and next steps for which you will take personal responsibility.

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