

WEBCAST TAKEAWAYS

TRANSITION ASSESSMENT: PRACTICAL APPROACHES AND POWERFUL TOOLS

SUMMARY

In our September Webcast, Dr. Jenn Bumble and Dr. Lindsay Athamanah give their tips and advice on making the Transition Assessment Process as smooth and successful as possible. They are both Assistant Professors of Special Education from the University of Missouri St. Louis. See below for highlights from their presentation!

The Importance of Assessments

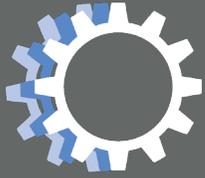
- Assessments help prepare students for life after high school
 - Drive postsecondary and annual goals
 - Identify student and family goals for the future, interests, strengths, and challenges
- Assessments help make instructional decisions, accommodations, and modifications
 - Utilize a team of people to get a better assessment of the student
 - Identify which skills need strengthening and help generalizing
- Assessments are **legally mandated!**

A Good Assessment Should:

- Begin early and occur often
 - Student interests, resources, family expectations change often so assessments should keep up with them
 - Focus on strengths rather than deficits
- Address personally meaningful domains
 - Student goals, interests, and strengths should drive assessments
 - Culture and relevancy should be taken into account
- Incorporate multiple approaches and/or tools
 - Utilize formal and informal assessments to gain a fuller, more complete assessment of the student

Types of Assessments

- Formal
 - Standardized assessments such as achievement, aptitude, and intelligence tests
 - Determine how well students are performing in relation to peers or their personal growth
- Informal
 - Personality tests, career development measures, planning inventories, interviews, direct observations
 - Provide an in-depth look at student and their skills, specific strengths, challenges, and interests



LEARN MORE

CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES

[Assessment Database](#)

Transition TN provides a database with over 100 transition assessments. You can add filters and search for specific domains to find an appropriate assessment.

[NTACT: National Technical Assistance Center on Transition Toolkits](#)

The NTACT Toolkit outlines various age-appropriate assessment options for teachers. It explains how to choose and conduct an assessment, and then describes many forms of informal and formal assessments.

[Council for Exceptional Children](#)

The Council for Exceptional Children is a professional organization for teachers of students with exceptionalities. They provide resources, connections, and advocacy for Special Education teachers and their students.

[“Assessing Transition Skills in the 21st Century”](#)

This article provides an up-to date description of the transition assessment process. It reviews what to assess, how to select appropriate assessments, and how to analyze and use assessment data

[CareerOneStop](#)

This website allows you or your student to search for careers that they might be interested in. It outlines the necessary training and skills required for each job and can assist in future life planning. It can also help suggest alternate jobs that are similar, but that might be more suitable depending on their strengths.

[Casey Life Skills Assessment Test](#)

This is a free assessment tool that helps establish a student’s goals for the future. It can find strengths, interests, and skills that can help lead youth to a successful future post graduating. Many of the domains assessed involve independence, life and social skills.