Virtual Transition Fair
May 19th
Postsecondary Education Resources

This presentation will be recorded for later access.
Leave your camera off and your audio muted during the presentations.
Welcome!

• Hosts: Emily Barker and Ben Schwartzman
  • Educational Consultants with Transition TN

• This presentation will be recorded for later access.
  • Please leave your camera off and your audio muted during the presentations.
  • You can type questions in the chat box during the presentation.
  • There will be breakout rooms grouped by specific institution type.
Transition TN

• The goal of Transition TN is to improve transition outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities
  • Register at transitiontn.org

• Recording of May 12th Virtual Transition Fair is available on our website

• Tonight, our presenters will be sharing information regarding postsecondary options for students with disabilities
Postsecondary Education for Students with Disabilities

• Attending an institution of higher education gives students with disabilities the opportunity to:
  • Explore and access different career options
  • Pursue interests and hobbies
  • Become more independent
  • Expand social network and activities
  • Have access to similar experiences as their peers

• Some students may be able to take college courses with or without accommodations, while others may need more specialized support
Postsecondary Education Options

• Tennessee Community Colleges and Colleges of Applied Technology
  • 13 Community Colleges; 27 TCATs
  • Each provides Disability Support Services and Accommodations
    • TN Community and Technical College System

• Universities
  • Each university provides Disability Support Services and Accommodations
  • Specialized Programs
    • Some universities in TN offer specialized programs for students with autism
    • College Programs for Students with Autism
  • Inclusive Higher Education Programs
    • 6 Universities in TN offer IHE programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities
    • Tennessee Inclusive Higher Education Alliance
Schedule for Tonight

• **5:35-5:45pm**: Kristina Krau Waymire – Director of Student Initiatives, Tennessee Board of Regents
  • Differences between Services in High School and College

• **5:45-6:15pm**: Breakout Room #1

• **6:15-6:25pm**: Chasidy Buchanan – Program Manager, Vocational Rehabilitation
  • Vocational Rehabilitation Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities

• **6:25-6:55pm**: Breakout Room #2

• **6:55-7:00pm**: Megan Hart – Director of Tennessee Disability Pathfinder
  • Supports and Resources Available through Disability Pathfinder
Transitioning to College: Accommodations and More

Funding provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Overview of 504/ADA (applicable to college)

- Affects any institution receiving Federal financial assistance
- “No otherwise qualified individual...” can be denied access based on a disability
- “Substantial limitation of one or more major life activities”
  - not everyone gets blanket accommodations
  - documentation has to warrant accommodations requested
- The institution and its academic programs have a right to set academic and technical standards. If the student does not meet those (with or without accommodation), they are not eligible to enroll.
- The institution legally cannot inquire about disability status; therefore, it is the student’s responsibility to seek out the disabilities office.
# IDEA and ADA: A Comparison

## The Educational Perspective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDEA</th>
<th>ADA/Section 504</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◦ Free &amp; Appropriate Mandatory Education</td>
<td>◦ Optional Education, and definitely <em>not</em> free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Entitlement Law</td>
<td>◦ Civil Rights Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Remedial Learning Tools</td>
<td>◦ Aids and Accommodations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Outcome Oriented: Successful Learning</td>
<td>◦ Equal Access—NOT Equal Outcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responsibilities Under IDEA, Section 504, and the ADA at the Secondary and Postsecondary Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Responsibility at Secondary Level</th>
<th>Responsibility at Postsecondary Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identification</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming</td>
<td>School + Parent</td>
<td>Student w/Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>School + Parent</td>
<td>Student w/Institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making</td>
<td>IEP/Placement Team</td>
<td>Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Planning</td>
<td>IEP/Placement Team</td>
<td>Student</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What can **K-12 staff and parents** do to prepare students for the transition?

- Have current and complete medical and/or psychological information; check with college as to what “current” means
- Make sure students have a good understanding of their disability (strengths and weaknesses to work on)
- Train/encourage students to advocate for themselves
- Inform the student about the ADA and Section 504
- Inform the student about accommodation arrangements for testing (ACT/SAT, etc.)
What can **K-12 staff and parents** do to prepare students for the transition? (continued)

- Help student understand the diploma options as they prepare to exit high school
- Recommend a visit to colleges before deciding
- Recommend that student contact the college disability services office **early** for an orientation to services and accommodations
- Encourage student participation in transition planning while in high school
What can the **student** do to prepare for the transition?

- Inquire about admission process to the college of choice
- Contact disability services office
- Inquire about types of academic accommodations that are typically provided for a student with similar disability.
- Inquire about tutoring programs (charge or free).
- Take high school courses that will get student into college.
- Be able to describe the limitations/strengths of disability in detail!
What can the **student** do to prepare for the transition? (continued)

- Take on more difficult tasks without the help of teachers or parents
- Learn to use a planner/organizer to be well organized
- Study for 2-4 hours per day
- Begin to consider career options carefully
- Take foreign language classes in high school
- Be prepared for the unexpected – there will likely be road blocks!
Resources

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)
www.ahead.org
Sample of publications available:

  Nolting, K. *Navigating College: Strategy Manual for a Successful Voyage*

Janie Jarrow’s Letter to Parents
“Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities”
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (resources and technical assistance)
www.ncset.org

Schwab Learning (articles related to transitioning to postsecondary for students with disabilities)
www.schwablearning.org/resources.asp?g=4&s+7
Kristina Krau Waymire
Director of Student Initiatives
TBR – The College System of Tennessee
kwaymire@tbr.edu
615.365.1560
Breakout Room Presenters

1. **Community College and College of Applied Technology Disability Services**
   - Courtney Gipson – Southwest Tennessee Community College
   - Yolanda Williams – TCAT Knoxville

2. **University Disability Services**
   - Verties Sails III – University of Memphis
   - Sara Conrad and Seth Taylor – University of Tennessee Knoxville
   - Jamie McCrary – Austin Peay State University

3. **Special Support Programs**
   - Megan Vranicar – Next Steps at Vanderbilt University
   - Kim Jameson – STARS at Christian Brothers University
   - Emmanuel Mejeun – Full Spectrum Learning at Austin Peay State University
Breakout Rooms

• You selected 2 breakout rooms during registration.
• If there is an issue with getting into your breakout room, Emily Barker will help.
• We will record the breakout rooms and save the chat.
• The breakout room host will give you more instructions in the breakout room.
The Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VR) provides a variety of individualized services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in the competitive labor market. VR advocates employment outcomes for clients that are consistent with their individual strengths, resources, abilities, capabilities and informed choice.
## VR Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counseling &amp; Guidance</td>
<td>Rehabilitation Technology Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Job Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance &amp; Transportation</td>
<td>Post-Employment Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Services from School to Work</td>
<td>Supported Employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care Assistance</td>
<td>Independent Living Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility

1. Qualifying Disability
2. Require VR services
3. Desire to Work
4. Accepted Post-Secondary Program
Post-Secondary Training

✓ The entry education level required for the individual’s job goal must require post-secondary education.
Clients in undergraduate training must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each school year to determine eligibility for state and federal grant financial aid.
Post-Secondary Funding Sources

- Pell Grant
- TN HOPE Scholarship
- Tennessee Student Assistance Award TSAA
- TN Reconnect
- TN Promise
VR Sponsorship Rates

- State Rate paid to Private Schools
- Full Cost to State Operated Schools
- TCAT (for field of study)
VR Sponsorship Requirements

- FULL TIME ENROLLMENT
- GPA 2.0 OR “GOOD STANDING”
- COMPLETE ALL REQUIRED CLASSES TIMELY
VR Sponsorship Support Services

- Fees
- Books
- Supplies, tools and equipment
- Transportation
- Housing
- Meals
State operated comprehensive rehabilitation facility that offers a variety of vocational programs on campus with residential housing available.
TRC Smyrna Areas of Study

- Automotive Detailing Technician
- Automotive Maintenance & Lubrication Technician
- Business Education Technology
- Certified Logistics Associate/Technician
- Certified Production Technician
TRC Areas of Study (cont.)

- Customer Care
- Entrepreneurship
- Food Service
- Manufacturing Assembly
- Pharmacy Technician
- Power Equipment
## VR Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Area Director</th>
<th>Policy Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EAST</td>
<td>Tiffany Ramsey: <a href="mailto:Tiffany.Ramsey@tn.gov">Tiffany.Ramsey@tn.gov</a></td>
<td>Kelly Roberts: <a href="mailto:Kelly.Roberts@tn.gov">Kelly.Roberts@tn.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE</td>
<td>Meghann Galland: <a href="mailto:Meghann.M.Galland@tn.gov">Meghann.M.Galland@tn.gov</a></td>
<td>Amy Howell: <a href="mailto:Amy.Howell@tn.gov">Amy.Howell@tn.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST</td>
<td>A’ndrea Leavy: A’<a href="mailto:ndrea.l.leavy@tn.gov">ndrea.l.leavy@tn.gov</a></td>
<td>Jennifer Wright: <a href="mailto:Jennifer.M.Wright@tn.gov">Jennifer.M.Wright@tn.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENSORY</td>
<td>Tiffany Kelley: <a href="mailto:Tiffany.Kelley@tn.gov">Tiffany.Kelley@tn.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Breakout Room #2

• You will now join your second breakout room.
• If there is an issue with getting into your breakout room, Emily Barker will help.
• We will record the breakout rooms and save the chat.
• The breakout room host will give you more instructions in the breakout room.
Tennessee Disability Pathfinder: Your navigator on the path to community services

Megan Hart, M.Ed., Director
Your Navigator on the Path to Community Services

A free, statewide information and referral service

Phone / Email Helpline  
Website of Information & Resources  
Multicultural Program  
Community Trainings

Program of VKC UCEDD, TN Council DD, TN Health, DIDD
How do you find...?

- Transportation
- Recreation
- Housing
- Financial Assistance
- Future Planning

Contact Pathfinder!
Statewide Multilingual Information & Referral/Assistance

Phone
(800) 640-4636

Email
tnpathfinder@vumc.org

Website
www.disabilitypathfinder.org
Pathfinder’s Website

Need Help:
• Contact staff for assistance via an online request form, phone, or email

Services Database:
• search for disability and community services from more than 3,400 agencies based on keyword service categories and counties

Community Events Calendar:
• find disability-related events posted by service agencies across the state

Multicultural Program:
• Camino Seguro - find bilingual (English/Spanish) service providers

Resources Library:
• a wealth of state and national information resources found online

www.disabilitypathfinder.org
Pathfinder staff provides online and in-person presentations to various audiences throughout the state who are interested in the following disability-related topics:

- **Pathfinder 101: Finding Disability Resources**
- **Disability Etiquette & People First Language**
- **Working with Multicultural Populations**
Pathfinder emails a monthly e-newsletter called The Compass, which provides disability resources as well as news and stories from Tennessee agencies. Each newsletter addresses a specific topic, such as Back-to-School, Employment and others listed below, and spotlights upcoming events from the Pathfinder calendar.

Click for current issue

Click here for our archives

If there is a topic you would like to learn more about, or you would like to request for us to profile your agency in an upcoming issue, email Pathfinder’s Community Engagement Coordinator, Rachel Underwood at rachel.r.underwood.1@vumc.org.
Engage with Us

Pathfinder Materials:
• Flyers
• Bookmarks

Social Media

Program of VKC UCEDD, TN Council DD, TN Health, DIDD
Tennessee Disability Pathfinder

800.640.4636 (Statewide)

www.disabilitypathfinder.org
www.caminoseguro.org
tnpathfinder@vumc.org
Final Remarks

• Thank you for joining us!

• Upcoming Transition Fair
  • May 26, 5:30-7:00pm CDT- Statewide Employment Services
  • For more information or to register, check out transitiontn.org/transition-tuesdays-virtual-transition-fair/
Contact Information

- Southwest Tennessee Community College
  - Courtney Gipson - cgipson2@southwest.tn.edu

- Tennessee College of Applied Technology - Knoxville
  - Yolanda Williams - Yolanda.Williams@tcatknoxville.edu

- University of Memphis
  - Verties Sails III - vsails@memphis.edu

- University of Tennessee Knoxville
  - Sara Conrad- sconrad@utk.edu
  - Seth Taylor - staylo88@utk.edu

- Austin Peay State University
  - Jamie McCrary - mccraryj@apsu.edu

- Next Steps - Vanderbilt University
  - Megan Vranicar - meghan.e.vranicar@vanderbilt.edu

- STARS - Christian Brothers University
  - Kim Jameson - kjameson@collegestars.org

- Full Spectrum Learning - Austin Peay State University
  - Emmanuel Mejeun - mejeune@apsu.edu

- TN Board of Regents
  - Kristina Krau Waymire - kwaymire@tbr.edu

- Disability Pathfinder
  - Megan Hart - tnpathfinder@vumc.org

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