



PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL

Agencies and Service Providers for Students with Special Needs

After school, the possibilities are endless for students with disabilities. All students want the great American Dream: to own their own home, to have a job that they are passionate about, to be involved in their community, and to have a hobby that in part helps to fulfill them. The goal of transition planning is to support student growth and learning in each of these areas.

To further this effort Region 10 personnel provide staff development, training, special projects, and technical assistance to administrators, teachers, transition specialist, parents, and other agencies.

This brochure will provide parents and educators with resources to assist students in their post-secondary careers.

This brochure is designed to:

- Provide information regarding agencies and service providers
- Answer questions concerning transition

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Table of Contents

Transition Planning Regulations	1
List of Agencies & Services	2
List of Agencies & Services	3
List of Agencies & Services	4
List of Agencies and Services	5
Further information	5

Note: This manual is designed to provide general information and may not include all resources that may be available for students with disabilities nor provide an endorsement of services.

Who We Are:

Region 10 Education Service Center (ESC) is one of 20 regional service centers established by the Texas State Legislature in 1967 for the purpose of providing services to the school districts within a defined geographic region. Regional service centers are non-regulatory, have no taxing authority, and provide services for which participation is voluntary on the part of the local school district. Region 10 Education Service Center, located in Richardson, provides services that impact more than 650,000 students and 53,000 educators in 80 public school districts, over 30 charter schools, and numerous private schools in the 8 counties (and portions of a 9th) in north Texas that make up the Region 10 Service Area.

**Serving: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Fannin,
Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall Counties**

Agencies and Service Providers

PACER Center

Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) and other parent information and training projects help families learn how they can help youth with disabilities prepare for independent living, access adult service systems, and work effectively with professionals.
<http://www.pacer.org/tatra/>

Texas Education Agency Secondary Transition Guidance

Guidance and web resources for secondary transition
<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed/guidance/transition.html>

Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services- DARS

Their mission is to work in partnership with Texans with disabilities and families with children who have developmental delays to improve the quality of their lives and to enable their full participation in society.

4800 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78756

Phone: (800) 628-5115

Email: DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us

<http://www.nsttac.org/>

211 Texas Infoline

Area Information Center for the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems for human services.

Phone: 211

For Further Information:

www.region10.org/specialeducation



400 E. Spring Valley Rd. Richardson, TX. 75081-5101
972 348-1700

Agencies and Service Providers

Mental Health Mental Retardation Services of Texoma

The mission of the center is to promote the accessibility of services that improve quality of life and support self determination for persons with mental and developmental disorders. Serves Fannin and Grayson counties

315 McLain St. Sherman, TX 75090

Telephone: 903-957-4700

www.mhmrst.org

Mosaic

Mosaic provides supports and advocacy in partnership with people who have disabilities.

2245 Midway Rd. #300 Carrollton 75006

972-886-9989

www.mosaicinfo.org

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

Coordinates national resources, offers technical assistance, and provides information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities in order to create opportunities to achieve successful future.

<http://www.ncset.org/>

National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability

The source for information about employment and youth with disabilities

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

National Consortium on Leadership and Disability with Youth

A youth-led resource, information, and training center for youth and emerging leaders with developmental disabilities, housed at the Institute for Educational Leadership and funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities.

<http://www.ncld-youth.info/>

National Clearinghouse on Postsecondary Education for Individuals with Disabilities

<http://www.health.gwu.edu/>

National Post-Outcomes Center

<http://www.psocenter.org/>

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

a national Technical Assistance and Dissemination center funded from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2010 by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs

<http://www.health.gwu.edu/index.htm>

Planning for Life After School

What Does IDEA 2004 Say? (\$300.43)

(a) Transition services means a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that--

(1) Is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation;

(2) Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests; and includes--

(i) Instruction; (ii) Related services; (iii) Community experiences; (iv) The development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives; and (v) If appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and provision of a functional vocational evaluation.

What Does the Child Centered Legal Framework Say?

Beginning not later than the first Individualized Education Program (IEP) to be in effect when the child is 16, and updated annually thereafter, the Annual Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee must:

Develop appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to:

- o Training
- o Education
- o Employment
- o Where appropriate, independent living skills; and
- o Develop transition services (including courses of study needed) to assist the child in reaching these goals

Beginning not later than 1 year before the child reaches age eighteen (18), the ARD committee must provide a statement that the child has been informed of the child's rights under the IDEA, if any, that will transfer to the child on reaching the age of majority. (*Cited from: <http://www.esc18.net/>*)

What Does The Texas Education Code Say? (\$29.011)

The procedure must specify the manner in which a student's ARD committee must consider, and if appropriate, address the following issues in the student's IEP:

(1) appropriate student involvement in the student's transition to life outside the public school system; (2) if the student is younger than 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition; (3) if the student is at least 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition, if the parent is invited to participate by the student or school district in which the student is enrolled; (4) any post secondary options; (5) a functional vocational evaluation; (6) employment goals and objectives; (7) if the student is at least 18 years of age, the availability of age-appropriate instructional environments; (8) independent living goals and objectives; and (9) appropriate circumstances for referring a student or the student's parents to a governmental agency for services.

Agencies and Service Providers

Achievement Center of Texas

Day habitations, educational assistance and community inclusion for children and adults with special needs (18 mo.-40yrs.). Serves Dallas, Garland, Richardson & surrounding cities.

2950 N. Shiloh Rd., Garland, TX. 75044
972 414-7700

The ARC of Dallas

Resources, services and information for persons with developmental disabilities for Dallas & surrounding counties.

12700 Hillcrest, Suite 200
Dallas, TX 75230
214 634-9810 Fax 214-634-9815
www.arcofdallas.org

Email: info@arcddallas.org

Best Practices From Around the Country on Transition

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/isped/transition/bpit.shtml>

Citizens Development Center

Programs include: vocational training, day habilitation services, instruction and counseling in the attainment and maintenance of marketable work skills; supported job placements and follow along services

8800 Ambassador Row, Dallas
214 637-2911
www.cdcdallas.org

College Planning for Students with Disabilities Booklet by University of Nebraska (PDF)

<http://www.answers4families.org/family/pdf/DisabilityHB.pdf>

Collin County Community Colleges-Disability Services:

<http://www.ccccd.edu/student-services/students.html>

Dallas Area Rapid Transit-DART

Will provide curb-to-curb transportation for persons with documented physical disabilities that prevent the use of regular transit buses. Reduced fares for ages 12-18 and enrolled in a curriculum to obtain a high school diploma.

Customer Service: 214749-3333
Paratransit Service: 214515-7272

Dallas County Community Colleges-Disability Services:

<http://www.dcccd.edu/Future+Students/Student+Services/Disability+Services/>

Agencies and Service Providers

Dallas Metrocare

Their Mission is to: "Provide quality services, treatments and assistance to people who live with the challenges of mental illness and mental retardation."

Mental Retardation Services:

Eligibility Determination Unit
11353 N. Westmoreland Bldg F, Dallas, TX 75211
214 333-7000

www.dallasmetrocare.com

Division on Career Development & Transition

Their mission is to promote national and international efforts to improve the quality of and access to career/vocational and transition services; increase the participation of education in career development and transition goals.
<http://www.dcdt.org/>

Grayson County Community Colleges-Disability Services:

http://www.grayson.edu/update/student_disabilities.asp

Healthy & Ready to Work

<http://www.hrtw.org/>

Jacob's Ladder

Assists adults (18+) with life skills and employment training; financial literacy training; academic and employability assessments.

2820 Swiss Avenue, Dallas 75204
214 426-6626

www.jacobsladderdallas.org

Lake Regional MHMR

Their mission is to ensure access to services and supports that enrich the lives of the individuals and families in Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, and Rockwall counties.

P.O. Box 747 Terrell, TX. 75160
972 524-4159

www.lrmhmrc.org

LifePath Systems of Collin County

LifePath Systems builds stronger communities by providing quality treatment, support and planning assistance to North Texas residents with special needs.

P.O. Box 828, McKinney, TX. 75070

Mental Health Services: 972-422-5939

Mental Retardation Services 972-727-9133

Early Childhood Intervention: 972-359-1110

www.lifepathsystems.org