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PARENT INFORMATION CENTER OF DELAWARE

DEVELOPING YOUR CHILD'S IEP: TRANSITION PLANNING

AT A GLANCE

One of the primary purposes of federal and Delaware special education law is to provide services that prepare individuals with disabilities for post-high school education, employment, and independent living. Beginning in eighth grade or age 14 (whichever comes first), the IEP for each youth with a disability must include transition goals related to training, education, employment, and – when appropriate – independent living, and transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the student in reaching those goals.

WHAT IS TRANSITION PLANNING?

Transition planning is the process of identifying the interests, strengths, and challenges of a student with a disability related to life after high school and can include goals to support:

- Training
- Education
- Employment
- Independent living (when appropriate)

Every eligible student with a disability must have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that sets forth their unique needs, and the special education and related services that the student will receive.

It is important to remember that the IEP is both a document and a process for making team decisions to address the unique needs of a student with a disability.

Once a student with a disability reaches the 8th grade or age 14 (whichever comes sooner), transition must become a core part of the IEP planning process. As with all other areas of a student's IEP, the transition planning parts of the IEP must be developed by an IEP team.

PIC is a statewide non-profit organization with a mission to improve health and educational outcomes for children and youth by empowering them, their families and the professionals who serve them. For more information visit www.picofdel.org, scan our QR code, or call 302-999-7394.

