

Educational Transition Services

- 1. At any age between three and twenty-two, if an evaluation shows that your child needs special education, school staff and parents will plan an Individualized Education Program (IEP).**
 - **An IEP is based off of evaluation results and describes the education program created to help your child learn.**
 - **The IEP should describe your child’s strengths and needs.**
 - **The IEP team will develop goals for your child that describe what your child should learn in one year.**
 - **The IEP will describe the kinds of special education and related services your child needs.**
 - **The IEP team must meet at least once per year to discuss your child’s progress and update goals and services.**

- 2. In Illinois, IEPs must include transition planning goals and services once a student turns 14 ½.**
 - **Transition services are a coordinated set of activities based on an individual student’s needs, taking into account the child’s strengths, preferences, and interests.**
 - **The IEP should include concrete transition goals, in addition to educational goals, to prepare the student for life after high school.**
 - **Transition goals and services can address vocational training, higher education, employment, and independent living.**
 - **As part of the IEP, transition plans, including transition services and goals, must be updated at least once a year.**

- 3. Based on the child’s need, students with IEPs may remain in high school or other special education placements and continue to receive transition planning and transition services up until their 22nd birthdays, even if they have enough credits to graduate.**
 - **Students who receive a regular high school diploma will no longer be eligible for special education.**
 - **Students who will be delaying graduation and continuing special education services past their senior years of high school may still participate in graduation ceremonies with their peers (Brittany’s Law).**

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7. **When a child transitions out of special education, either with a diploma or at age 22, the school district must provide the child with a summary of the child's academic achievement and functional performance, which shall include recommendations on how to assist the child in meeting the child's postsecondary goals.**

8. **Delegation of Rights**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your caseworker and they will refer you to someone who can help you.