



It Takes a City

DC Does it Best!

Secondary Transition

Connecting Students with Disabilities to Agencies that Serve Adults

Presented by:

UNIVERSITY LEGAL
SERVICES

Protection & Advocacy Program



for the District of Columbia



District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education
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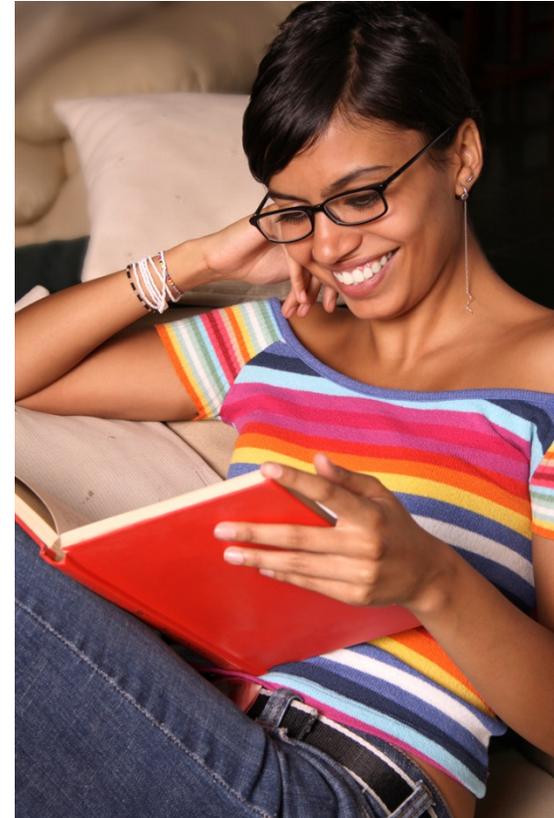
Topics we will cover:

- What is secondary transition and why is it important?
- Agencies that serve adults with disabilities
 - Who is eligible?
 - What services do they provide?
 - How do I get services?
- Who can I contact for help?



What is secondary transition?

- Secondary transition is part of the IEP process for students who are in high school.
- A **Transition Plan** describes the student's strengths, needs, goals, and how the school will help the student reach his or her goals.
- The transition plan becomes a part of the student's IEP.



Why is secondary transition important?



- Secondary transition is what ensures students with IEPs are prepared for life after high school.
- Transition focuses on what the student wants and is good at so it shows everyone – student, family, and school – how the student can be a successful adult.



Some agencies that serve adults with disabilities

- Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)
- Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)
- Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)
- Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF)
- Social Security Administration (SSA)



Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)

Who

People who have a disability and need help preparing for and finding work.

What

Services needed to find and maintain a job, including college or other job training, job search and placement, and support on the job.

How

Complete application, 60 days to decide eligibility, write IPE (individualized plan for employment), identify providers for services identified in IPE, receive services until employment outcome is maintained for at least 90 days.



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

Who

People who have an intellectual disability – have an IQ below 70 that is identified before age 18.

What

Services needed to be a part of the community, including residential services, day services, and related services.

How

Complete application, 90 days to decide eligibility, write ISP (individual support plan), identify providers for services in ISP, receive services, review ISP every year.



Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)

Who

People who have a diagnosed mental illness (or for kids, at risk of having a mental illness) that causes significant problems at work, home, and/or school.

What

Services needed to address mental health issues and live and participate in the community, including some services that help a child's entire family.

How

Call the Access Helpline and ask for a core service agency, core service agency does intake and assessment, write IRP (individual recovery plan), receive services identified in IRP from core service agency, review IRP every six months.



Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF)

Who

People who have a physical disability can get personal care aide (PCA) services if they need a significant amount of help with activities of daily living.

What

PCA services are one-on-one help with personal care needs like bathing, dressing, eating, and toileting.

How

Contact the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) for help getting connected to a home health provider, get an order from the doctor, get authorization from DHCF, receives services as ordered and approved.



Social Security Administration (SSA)

- SSA has rules that allow you to start working while you get some or all of your benefits.
- If you earn enough, your benefits might be reduced (for SSI) or suspended (for SSDI).
- Still you usually have more to live on if you work, especially if you are a student.

SSI Student Exclusion

- SSI has special rules that let you earn money while you are in school – money that does not affect your SSI check at all.
- The amount changes every year, but in 2015, you can earn up to \$1,780 in a month, up to \$7,160 for the year, and still get all of your SSI.



Social Security Administration (SSA)

SSA Reporting

- You absolutely must report any income you make to Social Security.
- Make sure you keep a journal or notes on how to report, when, and who you talk to.
- Keep any letters you get in a folder or notebook.

Help

- If you work, or are thinking about working, talk to the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) program. They can help you understand how work affects your benefits and help you know what and when to report to SSA.



Who can I contact for help?

RSA

- Your counselor or his or her supervisor. If you don't know who it is, call RSA at (202) 730-1700.
- ULS at (202) 547-0198.

DDA

- Your service coordinator or his or her supervisor. If you don't know who it is, call DDA at (202) 730-1700.
- Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities at (202) 448-1450.
- ULS at (202) 547-0198.



Who can I contact for help?

DBH

- Access Helpline at (888) 7WE-HELP (793-4357) – available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Your community support worker or his or her supervisor. If you don't know who it is, call the Access Helpline.
- Consumer Action Network at (202) 842-0001.
- ULS at (202) 547-0198.

DHCF-PCA Services

- Your home health provider. If you don't know who it is, call DHCF at (202) 442-9225.
- Aging & Disability Resource Center at (202) 724-5626.
- DC Healthcare Ombudsman at (202) 724-7491.
- ULS at (202) 547-0198.



Who can I contact for help?

DHCF-General Medicaid Eligibility/Medical Services

- Legal Aid Society of DC at (202) 628-1161.
- Bread for the City at (202) 265-2400.
- Neighborhood Legal Services at (202) 832-6577.

SSA-Work Incentives

- Full Circle Employment Solutions at (888) 466-2940.
- ULS at (202) 547-0198.

SSA-General Eligibility

- Legal Aid Society of DC.
- Bread for the City.
- Neighborhood Legal Services.



Ask Questions – Now or Later

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