

Transition & Post Secondary Planning



Transition and Post Secondary Planning



Successful transition from high school to life beyond takes careful planning. It is never too early to start thinking about the steps that will take your child to the next level. No matter the age of your child, it is important to start with the end in mind and make a plan.





“

To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you're going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.

—Stephen R. Covey



Post Secondary Options

1

TWS

College/ Trade School

Earn a certification or degree that leads to independent living

2

TWS

Career/Employment

Enter the workforce directly after high school.

3

TWS & Agencies

Supported Employment/Volunteerism

Receive help from an agency or family in order to work or seek volunteer experiences.

4

Waiver Programs
Agencies
Guardianship

Day Programs

Fills time during the day with a specialized program and perhaps a combination of other supports.

5

Waiver Programs
Agencies
Guardianship

Participate at home & with family to the maximum extent possible

Spends most of the time at home with support from family and agencies.



Supplemental Special Education Services



Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES) are \$1,500 one-time on-line grants for eligible parents/caregivers of eligible students served by special education that have been impacted by COVID-19 school closures.

Families of eligible students can use the on-line accounts to obtain educational materials and resources and/or services such as additional speech therapy or other specific services.

To be eligible for the SSES grant, students must currently be:

- enrolled in a Texas public school,
- enrolled in PreK - 12th grade,
- and a student with a disability served through Special Education.

Click here to apply:
[Supplemental Special Education Services](#)

Take Advantage of Support When You Can!





01

College Information & Planning



College and Trade School

Certifications and degrees can lead to great career opportunities for students. Important aspects to consider:

- Any post secondary school that receives federal funds must have a disability service office.
- Basic accommodations can be made for students.
- The academic rigor of all classes must be maintained.
- If a student receives modified content in high school, they will need to start at a Junior or Community College.



Local Options

[Dallas College](#)

[Dallas College:
Accessibility Services](#)

[Dallas College:
Trades/Certifications/Degrees](#)

[Collin College](#)

[Collin College: Rockwall
Center](#)

[Collin College: Technical
Campus](#)

[Access \(Disability Services at
Collin College\)](#)



Growing Opportunities



In recent years, the college opportunities for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities have expanded. These programs focus on independence, vocational training and adult living skills. It is likely these opportunities will grow through the years.

Sooner Works

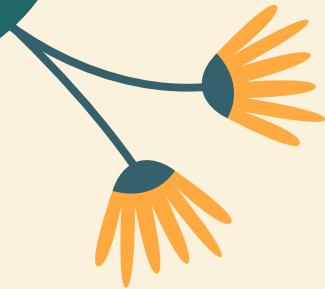
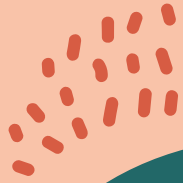
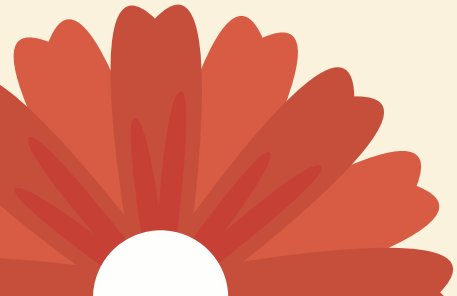
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Texas Workforce Solutions



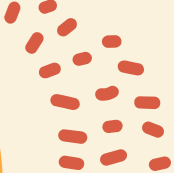
Texas Workforce Solutions



01

Pre Employment
Skills during
High School

02



Vocational
Support and
Training after
High School

03


College and
Career Services




TWS

College & Career Services

After assessing vocational strengths and interests, it is possible a student could receive financial help with career training or college. If the coursework will lead to employment, TWS might help pay. These services are usually based on financial need. It is recommended students apply by the 2nd semester of their 11th grade year



TWS will also perform career assessments and give guidance on career choices



TWS : Vocational Services

TWS can help clients gain vocational skills through job coaching, summer internships, and vocational/prevocational training. After high school, they can also help with job placement and job retention. These services are based on need and eligibility not finances. RISD has a TWS Counselor available at both high school campuses. If you feel your student needs these services, we recommend you apply by the second semester of the junior year.



Vocational Services Available Now

01

Summer Earn & Learn

5 week paid internship with job coaching during the summer.

02

Pre Employment Transition Services

Students 14 and above can receive training in pre employment skills at no cost.

03

Internships

TWS can arrange paid and non paid 12 week internships for qualifying students



To set up services email:

Edwin Baez:

edwin.baez@twc.state.tx.us



03

Medicaid Waiver Programs

Medicaid Waiver Programs in Texas

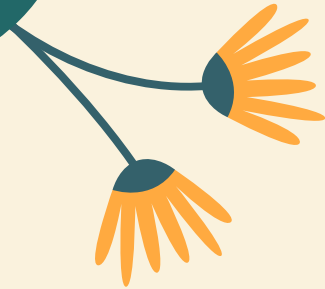
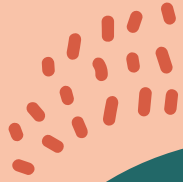
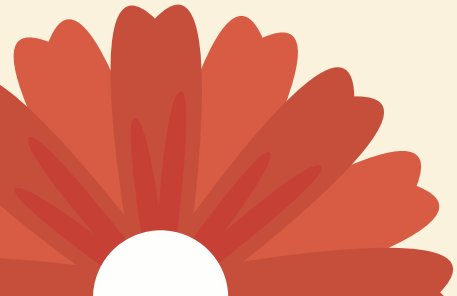
In the state of Texas, there are programs designed to help special needs individuals and their families. Most of these waiver programs provide services and supports to persons with intellectual disabilities, severe medical needs, and/or autism. Because these services are in such high demand, there is a wait list before an individual can be evaluated for services. These wait lists can be 15 years long. If there is any possibility your child will need ongoing support and help, you should call and get their name on an interest list today!

Medicaid Waiver Programs

CLASS Waiver Program	The CLASS program provides home and community-based supports to people with related conditions. This waiver is an alternative to receiving services in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/IID)	Health & Human Services Commission Waiver Hotline Call: 877-438-5658 Say: I want to place my child on the Medicaid Waiver Interest Lists.
Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)	MDCP (also called STAR Kids) provides services to families caring for children and young adults as an alternative to receiving services in a nursing facility. (Ends at 21)	Health & Human Services Commission Waiver Hotline Call: 877-438-5658 Say: I want to place my child on the Medicaid Waiver Interest Lists.
Deaf-Blind With Multiple Disabilities Program (DBMD)	The DBMD program provides services for people who are deaf-blind or have a condition that leads to deaf-blindness, plus an additional disability. This waiver is an alternative to receiving services in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/IID)	Health & Human Services Commission Waiver Hotline Call: 877-438-5658 Say: I want to place my child on the Medicaid Waiver Interest Lists.
Home and Community Based Services (HCS)	The HCS program provides services and supports to people with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition who live with their families, in their own homes, or in small group homes with no more than 4 beds.	Lakes Regional Community Center 903-243-9088 x 2305 Say: I want to place my child on the Medicaid Waiver Interest Lists.
Texas Home Living Services (TxHmL)	This waiver program provides services to people with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition who live in their own home or their family's home.	Lakes Regional Community Center 903-243-9088 x 2305 Say: I want to place my child on the Medicaid Waiver Interest Lists.
Youth Empowerment Services (YES)	This waiver program designed to specifically help students with serious mental, emotional and behavioral difficulties. The YES program seeks to provide wraparound services to help build the family's natural support and connection within their community	North Texas Behavioral Health (Rockwall, Kaufman, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt and Navarro Counties) 866-501-6535 Say: I want to place my child on the YES Waiver Interest Lists.

04

Lakes Regional Community Center



Lakes Regional Community Center



Services Now

Lakes Regional can provide services for qualifying students now. You can apply for services today.

Intellectual and Developmental
Disability Supports Call:
903-872-2491 x 1804.

Mental Health: 972-722-2685

Lakes Regional is our
local Mental Health
and Intellectual
Developmental
Disability Agency.
They can provide
services to students
in need.

Services Later

As the local service provider for our county, LRCC manages the interest wait lists and services for HCS and TxHmL. You can add your child to the interest wait list today.

903-243-9088 X 2305





05

**Guardianship
Power of Attorney
Supported Decision
Agreement**

Guardianship-Power of Attorney-Supported Decision Making Agreement

Most children, with or without disabilities, continue to need parental assistance when they turn 18. Many parents are surprised to learn their ability to make decisions regarding education, finances, medical care, or anything else, are rights that now belong exclusively to their adult child. Once an individual is 18, that individual is presumed competent to manage every aspect of their life. When your student turns 18, you have various options to consider:

Guardianship:

Guardianship is a legal process in which the competence of an individual is assessed. If the court finds that an individual is unable to make their own decisions, a guardian is appointed by the courts. Although some counties will allow a petition to be filed shortly before the child's 18th birthday, the hearing will not be held until after the child turns 18. Families considering this option will need to contact a lawyer. Once guardianship is obtained, it needs to be re-filed with the courts once a year.

Power of Attorney:

The durable power of attorney is a document signed by one individual appointing another individual to act for him or her. Power of attorney can be roughly divided into two categories: the financial durable power of attorney, which addresses issues related to daily living, such as financial matters, education, public benefits and privacy/access to documents, and those that address health care. Unlike guardianship, the adult child is never determined to be incompetent and retains all rights not specified in the agreement. Power of Attorney agreements are only appropriate if the adult child is capable of understanding the document. The agreement must be filed with the courts.

Supported Decision Making Agreement:

In a supported decision-making agreement the adult child chooses someone (called a "supporter") they trust to help them get information they need to make an informed decision, consider their options, understand the risks and communicate their decisions to others. It must be signed by a third party witness but does not need to be filed with the courts. The adult child retains all rights. The agreement can be made or revoked at any time.



06

Additional State Resources

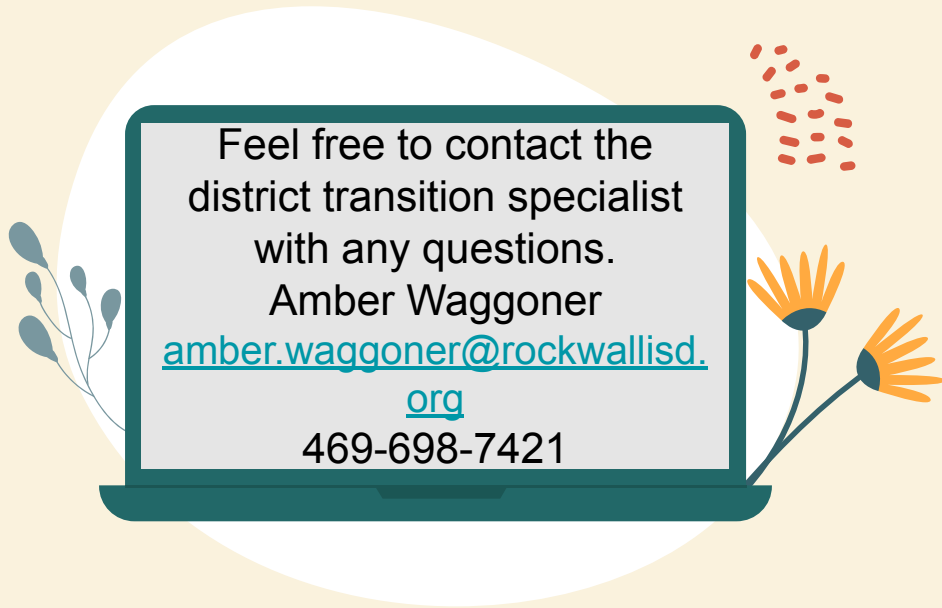
Additional State Resources

The state has some additional information and resources that might be helpful for you to review:

Texas Education Agency: [Secondary Transition in Texas](#)

Texas Transition Information for Parents and Students: [Texas Transition](#)

[Texas Transition and Employment Guide](#)



Thanks