**A Guide to Transition Resources**

**Compiled by the Talking Book Program’s**

**Disability Information & Referral Center**

**800-252-9605 / 512-463-5458**

tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov**/** [www.TexasTalkingBooks.org](http://www.TexasTalkingBooks.org)

**NOTE:** The topic of transition resources is very broad and encompasses other aspects of disability culture such as independent living and self-determination. This guide is intended to serve as an introduction to the subject rather than an all-inclusive, definitive document.

**National Organizations:**Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)

704-947-7779

[www.ahead.org/](http://www.ahead.org/)

DO-IT

doit@uw.edu

[www.washington.edu/doit/](http://www.washington.edu/doit/)

HEATH Resource Center / The George Washington University

askHEATH@gwu.edu

[www.heath.gwu.edu/](http://www.heath.gwu.edu/)

National Center for the Study of Postsecondary Educational Supports (NCSPES)

[www.rrtc.hawaii.edu/](http://www.rrtc.hawaii.edu/)

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET)

612-624-2097

ncset@umn.edu

[www.ncset.org/](http://www.ncset.org/)

Formerly known as National Transition Alliance

Funded by the PACER Center

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth

877-871-0744

[www.ncwd-youth.info/](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/)

Funded and run in part by the NYEC

National Pacer Center on Transition and Employment (added 6/11/15)

<http://www.pacer.org/transition/>

Site includes a learning center, resource library, stories, and videos

National Youth Employment Coalition

202-780-5928

nyecyouth@gmail.com

[www.nyec.org/](http://www.nyec.org/)

PACER (Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights)

888-248-0822

[www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org/)

Source America (Employment)

571-226-4660

[www.sourceamerica.org](http://www.sourceamerica.org)

Please refer to **State Organizations** for Texas office.

Transitions RTC

Learning & Working during the Transition to Adulthood Rehabilitation Research & Training Center

877-331-5870

<http://labs.umassmed.edu/transitionsRTC/#sthash.NdQ9PYfa.qyrv2heZ.dpbs>

This center aims to provide supports to young people with serious mental conditions.

**State Organizations:**

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

800-628-5115

DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us

[www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/index.shtml](http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/index.shtml)

State contact for vocational rehabilitation and transition

Maintains offices throughout Texas

Source America Regional Office (Arlington)

Sally Henderson, Executive Director

817-622-7000

cservices@sourceamerica.org

Texas Education Agency

512-463-9734

<http://tea.texas.gov>

Division of Special Education

<http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/>
Transition in Texas

[www.transitionintexas.org/domain/3](http://www.transitionintexas.org/domain/3)

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI)

800-872-5273 (recording) 512-454-8631 (switchboard)

[www.tsbvi.edu](http://www.tsbvi.edu/)

**Organization Websites:**

Adolescent Health Transition Project

<http://depts.washington.edu/healthtr/>

Education Resources Information Center (ERIC)

[www.eric.ed.gov/](http://www.eric.ed.gov/)

Equal Access to Software and Information (EASI)

<http://easi.cc/>

Going to College

[www.going-to-college.org/](http://www.going-to-college.org/)

MDA Transitions Site

<http://transitions.mda.org/>

A comprehensive web site about all aspects of transition, designed for anyone with a mobility impairment

Partners for Youth with Disabilities

[www.pyd.org/](http://www.pyd.org/)

Primarily this organization implements programs for the state of Mass., but their programs can also be used as models for organizations in other states. They feature mentor, online partner, young entrepreneur, and parent programs.

PEPNET online

[www.pepnet.org](http://www.pepnet.org/)

Project Eye to Eye

<http://eyetoeyenational.org/>

One of the services of Eye to Eye provides peer and mentoring support for high school and college students with learning differences. The program does not have a Texas affiliate at this time.

Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act

[www.pacer.org/tatra/](http://www.pacer.org/tatra/)

Funded by PACER

Transition Coalition

<http://transitioncoalition.org/transition/index.php>

Youth to Work Coalition

[www.nsttac.org/ytw/home](http://www.nsttac.org/ytw/home)

Funded by the National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

**Websites for Transition Students:**

Friends of Quinn

[www.friendsofquinn.com/](http://www.friendsofquinn.com/)

This is an online community for young people with learning differences.

I Am Norm

<http://iamnorm.com/>

This is a nationwide movement that promotes inclusion.

I Belong

[www.ibelong.ca/](http://www.ibelong.ca/)

This is a Canadian web site for young people with intellectual disabilities, and the families and educational staff that support them.

Starbright World

[www.starbrightworld.org/](http://www.starbrightworld.org/)

This is a web site for students with chronic illnesses or serious injuries.

Strength of Us

<http://strengthofus.org/>

Online community for young people with mental illnesses

Voices for Hope

[www.voices4hope.net/](http://www.voices4hope.net/)

This site provides resources for teenagers and young people with mental health conditions.

**Non-Disability Transition Website:**

Youthhood.org

[www.youthhood.org](http://www.youthhood.org)

**Online Guides (General):**

Affordable Colleges for Students with Disabilities [www.affordablecollegesonline.org/spotlight/affordable-colleges-for-students-with-disabilities/](http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/spotlight/affordable-colleges-for-students-with-disabilities/)

Cyber Disclosure for Youth with Disabilities

[www.ncwd-youth.info/cyber-disclosure](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/cyber-disclosure)

Finding a Job That Is Right for You: A Practical Approach to Looking for a Job as a Person with a Disability

<http://askjan.org/job/>

(The) 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Youth with Disabilities

Through National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability (NCWD)

[www.ncwd-youth.info/411-on-disability-disclosure](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/411-on-disability-disclosure)

How to Build Partnerships for Career Exploration: Using Job Shadows to Explore the World of Work:

[www.ivrs.iowa.gov/Transition/BuildPartnershipsforCareerExploration.pdf](http://www.ivrs.iowa.gov/Transition/BuildPartnershipsforCareerExploration.pdf)

Kickstart Your ILP (Individualized Learning Plan)

[www.dol.gov/odep/ilp/Kickstart.htm](http://www.dol.gov/odep/ilp/Kickstart.htm)

From the Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy

Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring For Youth with Disabilities

[www.ncwd-youth.info/paving-the-way-to-work](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/paving-the-way-to-work)

Planning for Life after High School: A Guide for Students, School Counselors, Teachers and Parents

<http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sped/pdf/tranopndrs.pdf>

Practical Guide for People with Disabilities Who Want to Go to College

<http://tucollaborative.org/pdfs/education/College_Guide.pdf>

Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html)

Simply Said: Introducing Vocational Rehabilitation Services

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vT9pKlcTQMg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vT9pKlcTQMg)

YouTube video from the PACER center

Understanding the New Vision for Career Development: the Role of Family

[www.ncwd-youth.info/node/1463](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/node/1463)

**Online Guides (Specific Disabilities):**

Visual Impairment/Blindness

E.X.P.L.O.R.E the Possibilities: An Approach to Transition:

[www.tsbvi.edu/instructional-resources/1914-explore-the-possibilities-an-approach-to-transition](http://www.tsbvi.edu/instructional-resources/1914-explore-the-possibilities-an-approach-to-transition)

**Online Articles (General):**

ADA and Transition: Q &A

[www.pacer.org/publications/adaqa/504.asp](http://www.pacer.org/publications/adaqa/504.asp)

All About the IEP

[www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/iep/](http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/iep/)

Services for Adults with Disabilities

[www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/foradults/](http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/foradults/)

Not specifically about transition, but contains information on related issues.

Twelve Things You Can Do to Plan for Your Child’s Future Today

[www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/archive/twelve.html](http://www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/archive/twelve.html)

Q&A for Students on VR (vocational rehab)

[www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/transition/students.htm](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/transition/students.htm)

Questions to Answer in Preparation for your Child’s IEP Meeting

[www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/archive/itp.htm](http://www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/archive/itp.htm)

**Online Articles (Specific Disabilities):**

Learning Disabilities

College and College Prep

 [www.ldonline.org/indepth/college](http://www.ldonline.org/indepth/college)

 Selecting a College for Students with LD or ADHD

 [www.ldonline.org/article/11772](http://www.ldonline.org/article/11772)

 Transition: School to Work

 [www.ldonline.org/indepth/transition](http://www.ldonline.org/indepth/transition)

Visual Impairments

Making It! Successful Transition Competencies for Youth with Visual Disabilities

[www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/spring00/makingit.htm](http://www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/spring00/makingit.htm)

The Challenge of Transitions

[www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/summer02/tcb.htm](http://www.tsbvi.edu/seehear/summer02/tcb.htm)

**Online Articles (For Students Younger Than High School):**

Moving on To High School: A Tip Sheet for Parents of Children on Individualized Education Programs

[www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article\_id=148](http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=148)

**Print/Multimedia Materials:**

AHEAD Materials

Books:

[*Beyond Accommodations: Strategies for College Students with LD* and ADHD](http://www.ahead.org/publications#ba)

*Expanding Postsecondary Options for Minority Students with Disabilities*

*Navigating College: Strategy Manual for a Successful Voyage*

*Navigating College Manual for Teaching the Portfolio*

*100 Things Every College Student with a Disability Should Know*

Brochures and Booklets: [www.ahead.org/publications#Brochures](http://www.ahead.org/publications#Brochures)

- Advising Students with Disabilities

*- College Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- College Students Who Have ADHD
- College Students Who Have Chronic Diseases or Episodic Disabilities
- College Students with Learning Disabilities - 3rd Edition
- Confidentiality and Disability Issues in Higher Education
- Preparing for College: Options for Students with Learning Disabilities
- Ready, Set, Go: Helping Students with Learning Disabilities Prepare for College
- Section 504: The Law and Its Impact on Postsecondary Education
- The Americans with Disabilities Act: The Law and Its Impact on Postsecondary Education
- Universal Design in Higher Education
- Universal Design: A Guide for Students
- Universal Design for Inclusive Lectures and Presentations*

American Foundation for the Blind

*College Bound: a guide for students with visual impairments* (2005)

Community Inclusion Publications

[www.communityinclusion.org/page.php?page=pubs](http://www.communityinclusion.org/page.php?page=pubs)

My Future My Plan

[www.stateart.com/works.php?workId=47&i=2](http://www.stateart.com/works.php?workId=47&i=2)

Available from NCSET

Pro-Ed

800-897-3202

[www.proedinc.com/customer/default.aspx](http://www.proedinc.com/customer/default.aspx)

Source for books and reference materials on transition

**Specific College Resources for Students with Disabilities:**

**National**

College Admissions Testing

[www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities](http://www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities)

Degree Programs for Unique Learners

Venture at Bellevue Community College, Bellevue, WA

<http://olsatbellevuecollege.com/>

Searchable database of other programs

[www.thinkcollege.net/](http://www.thinkcollege.net/)

Disability-Friendly Colleges

<http://dmoz.org/Society/Disabled/Education/Colleges_and_Universities>

Financial Aid Links

[www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/disabled.phtml)

[www.washington.edu/doit/college-funding-students-disabilities](http://www.washington.edu/doit/college-funding-students-disabilities)

Guide to College-Level Tests

[www.onlineschools.org/college-test-guide/](http://www.onlineschools.org/college-test-guide/)

Post Secondary Guide

[www.pacer.org/tatra/resources/postSecondary.asp](http://www.pacer.org/tatra/resources/postSecondary.asp)

Preparing for College: An Online Tutorial

[www.washington.edu/doit/preparing-college-online-tutorial](http://www.washington.edu/doit/preparing-college-online-tutorial)

From DO-IT

**In Texas**

College for Texans

[www.collegefortexans.com/](http://www.collegefortexans.com/)

Easter Seals – Central Texas

[www.easterseals.com/centraltx/](http://www.easterseals.com/centraltx/)

Offers workforce development and supported employment

The Higher Education Coordinating Board

[www.thecb.state.tx.us/](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/)

2013 Resource Guide for Students with Disabilities

<http://tcdd.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/2013_higher_ed_guide_en_web.pdf>

Texas Transition & Employment Guide

sped@tea.state.tx.us

<http://www.transitionintexas.org/cms/lib/TX01001018/Centricity/Domain/3/Texas%20Transition%20and%20Employment%20Guide%202014.pdf>

**Other Information:**

Checklist for Applying to College (From Quest Magazine)

**Research**

Begin at least during junior year of high school.

Consult magazines, books, and web sites

Request college viewbooks

Attend college fairs and open houses

**Make Contact**

Contact the Disability Services Offices at Colleges

Ask about what documentation is required

Make sure you are familiar with the nature and scope of your disability

**Tours**

Request tours through the Disability Services Office.

Scrutinize the accessibility of the campus.

Be sure to visit buildings you know you will need to use.

**Personal Care Attendants**

Not all colleges assist with finding personal care attendants.

Interview carefully.

If you hire non-students, check on residence hall policies.

Older students are often more responsible and reliable.

Always have a back-up plan.

Ways to find attendants

 Disability Services Office

 Independent Living Centers

 Class or residence hall bulletin boards

**Remember**

Balance accessibility needs with academic program interests.

Self-advocacy is very important.

Accessibility is not uniform at all colleges or universities

**Specific Employment Resources:**

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

[www.eeoc.gov/](http://www.eeoc.gov/)

Healthy & Ready to Work

[www.syntiro.org/hrtw/](http://www.syntiro.org/hrtw/)

Job Accommodation Network

<http://askjan.org/>

Office of Disability Employment Policy in the US Department of Labor

[www.dol.gov/odep/index.htm](http://www.dol.gov/odep/index.htm)

Texas Workforce Commission

[www.twc.state.tx.us/](http://www.twc.state.tx.us/)

The Labor Market and Career Information (LMCI) [www.lmci.state.tx.us](http://www.lmci.state.tx.us) section of TWC produces a wealth of helpful resources, from brochures to packets to web courses, to assist individuals of all abilities. Examples of brochures include career tips, financial aid information, and personality types suitable for specific jobs. TWC also offers an online course for work prep, and a website called “Reality Check” [www.texasrealitycheck.com](http://www.texasrealitycheck.com) that allows a person to choose a desired career and then proceed through a series of pages to calculate the cost of living to determine if the career and lifestyle decisions they make are realistic. Examples of packets (called magazines on the site) produced by LMCI can be found in this Guide under “Vertical File Publications.” Some documents and online resources geared toward younger students as well.

Work Support

[www.worksupport.com](http://www.worksupport.com/)

**Links to other topics affecting transition:**

Independent Living

Guide to Transitioning to Independent Living

 [www.new-horizons.org/gdeind.html](http://www.new-horizons.org/gdeind.html)

 Texas Centers for Independent Living

 <http://txsilc.org/index.php/en/>

 Texas Home of Your Own

[www.easterseals.com/centraltx/our-programs/adult-services/community-housing-services/home-of-your-own-hoyo.html](http://www.easterseals.com/centraltx/our-programs/adult-services/community-housing-services/home-of-your-own-hoyo.html)

Medicare

[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov/)

Mentoring/Shadowing

 Disability Mentoring Day

 [www.aapd.com/what-we-do/employment/disability-mentoring-day/](http://www.aapd.com/what-we-do/employment/disability-mentoring-day/)

 Mentoring Youth with Disabilities

 [www.ncwd-youth.info/topic/mentoring](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/topic/mentoring)

Personal Assistance Services

 Making the Move to Managing Your Own Personal Assistance Services

 [www.ncwd-youth.info/PAS-Toolkit](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/PAS-Toolkit)

Self-Determination

More than Just a Job: Person-Centered Career Planning

[www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article\_id=16](http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=16)

Self Determination

[www.nlts2.org/fact\_sheets/nlts2\_fact\_sheet\_2005\_06-2.pdf](http://www.nlts2.org/fact_sheets/nlts2_fact_sheet_2005_06-2.pdf)

A list of resources from NCSET

Self-Determination Synthesis Project

[www.pepartnership.org/resources/search/transition/self-determination-synthesis-project.aspx](http://www.pepartnership.org/resources/search/transition/self-determination-synthesis-project.aspx)

Social Security Administration

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov/)

Vocational Rehabilitation

See DARS above.

Volunteerism

Best Buddies Friendship Programs

[www.bestbuddies.org/our-programs](http://www.bestbuddies.org/our-programs)

**DIRC Materials Available:**

**Books**

*Adventures in the Mainstream: Coming of Age with Down Syndrome* Palmer, Greg, 2005.

*College & University Resource Directory for Students with Disabilities,* Houston Mayor’s Committee for Employment of People with Disabillities, 2002

 *Exceeding Expectations: Successful Adults with Learning Disabilities,* Reiff, Henry B., Paul J. Gerber, and Rick Ginsberg, 1997

*Going to College: Expanding Opportunities for People with Disabilities,* Getzel, Elizabeth Evans, M.A., and Paul Wehman, Ph.d., editors, 2005

 *Guiding Your Teenager with Special Needs through the Transition from School to Work Life: Tools for Parents,* Korpi, Mary, 2008

 *Job-Hunting for the So-Called Handicapped: or People Who Have Disabilities,* Bolles, Richard Nelson and Dale Susan Brown, 2001

 *K&W Guide to Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities, 9th Ed,* Princeton Review, 2007

*Launching Into Adulthood: An Integrated Response to Support Transition of Youth with Chronic Health Conditions and Disabilities*, Lollar, Donald, Ed.D., editor, 2010

*Learning a Living: A Guide to Planning Your Career and Finding a Job for People with Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit Disorder, and Dyslexia,* Brown, Dale S., 2000

*Life beyond the Classroom: Transition Strategies for Young People with Disabilities, Fourth Edition,* Wehman, Paul, Ph.d., 2006

 *Life Planning for Adults with Developmental Disabilities: A Guide for Parents and Family Members,* Greenbaum, Judith, PhD., 2007

 *Listening to the Experts: Students with Disabilities Speak Out.* Keefe, Elizabeth, et al, 2006.

*Moving Into Adulthood: Easing the Journey for Young People with Disabilities,* Family Support Network of North Carolina, 1997

## *Pathways to Successful Transition for Youth with Disabilities: A Developmental Process (2nd Ed),* Author: Kochhar-Bryant, Carol A. and Gary Greene, 2008

## *Physical Disabilities: The Ultimate Teen Guide*, Thorton, Denise, 2007

*The Power to Spring Up: Postsecondary Education Opportunities for Students with Significant Disabilities*, Katovitch, Diana M., MS, 2009

*Promoting Health Care Transitions for Adolescents with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities,* Betz, Cecily, L. and Wendy M. Nehring, 2007

# Self-Advocacy Skills for Students with Learning Disabilities: Making it Happen in College and Beyond,Reiff, Henry B, 2007

*Skills for Success: A Career Education Handbook for Children and Adolescents with Visual Impairments,* Wolffe, Karen, ed., 1999

 *Think College: Postsecondary Education Options for Students with Intellectual Disabilities*, Grigal, Meg, Ph.D., and Debra Hart, M.Ed., 2009

 *The Transition Handbook: Strategies High School Teachers Use That Work!* Hughes, Carolyn and Erik W. Carter, 2000

*Transition to Adulthood: A Resource for Assisting Young People with Emotional or Behavioral Difficulties,* Clark, Hewitt B., Ph.d., and Maryann Davis, Ph.d., editors, 2000

 *Unlocking Potential: College and Other Choices for People with LD and AD/HD,* Taymans, Juliana M., Ph.D. and Lynda L. West, Ph.D., with Madeline Sullivan, M.A., ed., 2000

**DVD’s**

“College Success for Students with Learning Challenges”, 2008

“Teens and Disabilities”, 2007

**Vertical File Publications**

Mapping Your Dreams

[www.pacer.org/tatra/resources/MYD/employment.asp](http://www.pacer.org/tatra/resources/MYD/employment.asp)

Parent Tips for Transition Planning

2001 The Alliance (Tech Assist Alliance for Parent Centers)

PDF

Leveling the Playing Field

From American Youth Policy Forum

PDF

Opening Doors to Postsecondary Education and Training

Wisconsin Dept of Public Instruction

Sept 2003

Parent Brief

Parenting Post-Secondary Students with Disabilities: Becoming the

Mentor, Advocate, and Guide Your Young Adult Needs

[www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.asp?id=208](http://www.ncset.org/publications/viewdesc.asp?id=208)

Starting the Conversation: A Career Exploration Guide for Parents and Children

And Succeed at Work Express

Both available from the Texas Workforce Commission Labor Market and Career Information

[www.lmci.state.tx.us](http://www.lmci.state.tx.us)

LMCI has created many excellent publications, including “Ready for the Real World after High School?” “Texas Job Hunter’s Guide,” and “Why Study This?” Booklets are geared toward to all students.

Student Portfolio

From Disability Assistance of Central Texas

A packet that allows students to collect and keep personal documents, such as school transcripts and medical histories, and other information needed to transition into the adult world.

Impact issue on Volunteerism

Vol 14 No 2 Fall 2001

Institute on Community Integration

College of Education and Human Development

University of Minnesota

Where Do We Go From Here: Planning and Navigating the Transition from School to Work

Exceptional Parent Magazine, 11/05

**NOTE:** The Disability Information and Referral Center (DIRC) also houses information on education, financial aid, scholarships, employment, social security, assistive technology, independent living, specific disabilities such as visual impairments and learning disabilities, and other topics related to transition. Books are available in print, and may be loaned for a period of five weeks. DVD’s are available on loan for three weeks. The borrower is responsible for the return postage. Copies of vertical file materials and other guides are available free of charge.

**Disability Information & Referral Center**

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tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov**/** [www.TexasTalkingBooks.org](http://www.TexasTalkingBooks.org)