



INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY/UCED

PLANNING FOR TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE

(Malloy, 2008)

A. CREATE A NEEDS LIST

Based on your MAPS or futures plan, develop a list of issues that you or a person who is helping you needs to explore further. Answering the questions below may help you develop a list of issues.

Answer these questions and develop a list of issues that you would like to address.

1. Do you or your family members need more money to meet your basic needs? (Food, housing, clothing)	Yes/ No
2. Do you need health insurance for everyday care?	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, you need to consider applying for Social Security benefits and state assistance.	
3. Do you need more help with basic academics at school?	Yes/ No
4. Do you need more help with support needs at school, which relate to your disability? _____	Yes/ No
5. Do you need a different structure to your school day or other major changes that relate to your disability? _____	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, you need to meet with your special education teacher or guidance person to develop modifications to your current plan	
6. Do you need a job?	Yes/ No
7. Do you need help deciding what type of job to get?	Yes/ No
8. Do you need help getting a job because of your disability?	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, contact your regional Vocational Rehabilitation Office and your high school counselor.	
9. Do you or your family members need help sorting out your finances	Yes/ No
10. Do you have money you want to put away for the future?	Yes/ No
11. Does your family want to put aside or give you money	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, you should contact The Area Agency for basic information on estate planning and trusts, especially special needs trusts.	

B.2 FOR THE FUTURE

1. Will you or your family need more money to meet your basic needs when you finish high school? (food, housing, clothing)	Yes/ No
2. Will you need health insurance for everyday care?	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, you will need to apply for Social Security benefits and state assistance when you turn 18 years old.	
3. . What type of diploma will you need to be eligible for your post high school goals (GED? Regular, Diploma, Modified Diploma, Certificate of Completion)? ____ You need to meet with your special education teacher and the other members of your team ASAP and decide what type of diploma you can achieve.	
4. What type of disability-related support needs will you have when you leave high school? _____	
5. Do you want to go to college or a training program? Do you need help getting a job because of your disability? If yes, how will you pay for it? ____	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, Contact your regional Vocational Rehabilitation Office and the Area Agency High School Transition Service Coordinator and see if you can add them to your team ASAP.	
6. Do you want to own your own home when you finish high school? Do you want to rent a place to live?	Yes/ No
7. Will you and your family need help managing your general affairs when you leave high school?	Yes/ No
8. Do you or your family members need help sorting out your finances	Yes/ No
9. Do you have money you want to put away for the future?	Yes/ No
10. Does your family want to put aside or give you money?	Yes/ No
If you answered yes to any of these, you should contact The Area Agency for basic information on estate planning and trusts, especially special needs trusts.	

C. RESOURCE PLANNING

Resource planning is a strategy to help the family and student identify what kind of financial and medical help the student with a disability needs now and in the future. The resource planning process helps the family pinpoint where to seek help when the futures plan has identified the need for financial assistance, medical insurance and medical support as a major barrier to reaching goals. This kind of planning creates a way to build a "safety net" for the young person.

RESOURCE PLANNING QUESTIONS

ISSUE	QUESTIONS	TO DO
<p>STEP 1:</p> <p>Assess the need for health insurance coverage and funding for disability-related support services.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the student have health insurance or Medicaid? 2. Do the insurance plan and/or Medicaid meet the young person's needs? 3. If covered under a parent's health insurance plan, how long will that plan cover the child (until age _____)? <hr/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the support services Medicaid can provide for the young person, including using the Medicaid-to-schools program to pay for individualized supports. 2. Does the young person need medical, therapeutic, mental health, educational or rehabilitation services not covered by health insurance? Does the student need adaptive equipment? Will the young person need these support services upon graduation in order to achieve his or her plan? <hr/> <p>If the young person does not have Medicaid or Healthy Kids GOLD or SILVER, ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the young person's medical expenses greater than the family's ability to pay? 	<p>Go over the insurance plan carefully</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Explore application to Medicaid and use of Medicaid-funded supports for now and in the future.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>If yes, TO DO: Explore application to Medicaid or the Healthy Kids program (Information on Healthy Kids is available at your school). Children with significant</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the young person have a "significant" disability, i.e., a medical or mental health condition that requires much care and monitoring? • Is the young person going to be 18 years old soon? Or is he or she already 18 years old? • Is the young person in a "middle income" or low-income family? <hr/> <p>Does the child have a specific medical condition, such as cystic fibrosis, or another condition that requires a medical specialist?</p> <hr/> <p>What type of specialized medical and health care does the young person need? Does the young person need gynecological care? Additional support to access dental or health care services? Does the young person need mental health services?</p>	<p>disabilities in higher-income families may qualify for Medicaid through special rules called the "Katie Beckett" (HC-CSD) entrance criteria.</p> <p>Seek help from a school counselor, Family Support liaison, or High School Transitions Service Coordinator to apply for Medicaid.</p> <hr/> <p>TO DO: Contact Public Health Bureau of Special Medical Services to see if the child qualifies for services</p> <hr/> <p>Explore the need for counseling, specialized health and support groups and mental health services.</p>
<p>STEP 2: Assess the current and future needs for financial assistance.</p>	<p>1. Is the family's income approximately \$2,200 per month or less? Are there many children in the family?</p>	<p>Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at the Social Security</p>

	<p>Is this a single-parent household? Is it a foster family? Or other type of family? Does the family need more money in order to support the young person with a disability?</p> <p>2. Is the young person with a disability about to turn 18 years old and in need of basic financial benefits?</p> <p>3. Does the young person want to work? How much does he or she want to earn? How does this relate to meeting his or her living expenses?</p>	<p>Office and apply for state benefits which may include Medicaid, financial assistance and food stamps. SSI can be an important income safety net for a youth or adult with a disability. {The young person will not qualify for SSI if the applicant has his or her own monthly income, which exceeds the SSI limits.}</p>
<p>STEP 3: Assess the need for help with specific goals such as housing, employment, training or specific health needs now and in the future.</p>		

TO DO: