



Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson  
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(360)632-7539 (call or text)



### Want to Stay Up-To-Date on Events, Articles, Research?

Sign up for our Newsletter mailing. There is a newsletter every month. The quarterly newsletter is packed with resources (local, state and federal), events, and up to date research/articles. The monthly newsletter is events and tips. Our Facebook page is updated almost daily with articles, events and tips on raising a child with special needs or supporting an adult with special needs.



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<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Humanservices/Pages/Parent-to-Parent.aspx>  
<https://www.facebook.com/islandcountyparent2parent/>

### Resources, Information & Support For Families In Island County, Statewide And Region

This and other resource guides are available on our website:

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Humanservices/Pages/Parent-to-Parent.aspx>

\*Island County Disability Resource Guide

\*Island County Autism Spectrum Disorder Resource Guide

\*Island County Behavioral Health Resource Directory

\*Island County Transition Services: School Age to Adulthood *Quick Guide*

\*Island County Transition Services & Resources Packet

Island County Autism Resources for Families Website

<https://www.pilotace.org/>

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## School Age to Adulthood Transition

What happens when the yellow school bus stops coming?



Transition Services & Resources in Island County.  
Connect with Resources in Your Community

For individuals with developmental disabilities

# What does everyday life look like after we finish school?

## We Need A Plan!

As we get older, our daily activities change. We worked so hard to help our kiddos be successful in school.

We don't want them to go from graduation to endless screen time.



## What opportunities are available?

**Work:** What support is available for youths and adults with disabilities?

**Education:** How is postsecondary different from high school?

**Other:** Volunteering, recreational activities, adult day services, self advocacy, and more.



### Want to know more about Transition in Island County?

Check out our Transition Packet and other resources available on our website.

## Quick Directory of Services & Providers

### Washington State Programs

\*Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA):

Island County: Region 2 (800) 788-2053 DDA2IETEAM@dshs.wa.gov

\*Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Mt. Vernon (360) 429-3097 Everett (425) 339-4880 OH (360)240-4736

\*School Transition Coordinator/DVR:

Island County: Karen Christian karen.christian@dshs.wa.gov  
(360) 899-0085

\*Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Island County dadamson@samishtribe.nsn.us (360) 726-3647

\*Developmental Disabilities County (DD)

Mike Etzell (360)678-7883 mikeet@islandcountywa.gov

### Employment Support Providers

\*Service Alternatives (800)292-6697

\*Washington Vocational Services (WVS)

(360)419-0910 Burlington (425)774-3338—Everett

\*Sherwood Community Services (425)334-4071

\*Pathways to Employment [www.pathways.dshs.wa.gov](http://www.pathways.dshs.wa.gov)

### Resources & Support

\*Island County Parent to Parent Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson

t.wheeler-thompson@islandcountywa.gov (360)632-7539 call/text

\*Informing Families <https://informingfamilies.org/>

\*High School Transition Toolkit

<https://informingfamilies.org/transition-toolkit/>

\*Got Transition <https://www.gottransition.org/>

Age	<a href="#">What To Do &amp; When To Do It For Students With A Developmental Disability</a> If my child has a developmental disability, here are some timelines to keep in mind
15-16	Apply for a Washington State ID Card <b>Why:</b> It will be needed to apply for adult services. WA State ID & License designation are available for DD, medical condition, deaf <b>(360)675-6466 OH</b>
16	Apply to become a client of Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) <b>Why:</b> You may want these service options when you child turns 21. Island County Region 2 OH <b>(360)544-6543</b> Island County Developmental Disabilities Mike Etzell <b>(360)678-7883</b>
17-17 1/2	Consider if guardianship is necessary and determine the type of guardianship. <b>Why:</b> Age 18 legal age of becoming a legal adult and your child may need support making legal, medical and vocational decisions.
17-19	Apply for HUD Housing <b>Why:</b> The waitlist for housing can be very long, so it is important to apply early. HUD <b>(800)955-2232</b> Island County Housing Navigator <b>(360)678-8284</b>
18	If you child does not receive Social Security Benefits-Apply NOW! <b>Why:</b> Your child is now an adult and parent's income is not counted. Your child may be eligible for cash and medical benefits. There are many provisions available including work incentives that allow people with disabilities to keep benefits including Medicare/Medicaid while working. <b>(800)772-1213</b>
18	Ask your DDA Case manager about Medicaid Personal Care Funding If you child is a client of DDA and with family provides personal care (help with bathing, grooming, dressing, laundry, etc)
Senior Year	Fill out the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) <b>Why:</b> If seeking aid to attend college, this form must be filled out by March 1 of your senior year.
19-21	Apply for services with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) <b>Why:</b> This agency helps people with disabilities become employed and understands how working will affect people's benefits. <b>(360)240-4736 OH</b>
Anytime	Call Island Transit for Travel Training and Paratransit services. <b>(360)678-7771</b>
Anytime	Contact Island County Parent to Parent P2P provides support for parents of children with disabilities and chronic illnesses. Information and referrals to community resources, social events and networking opportunities. Sign up for their monthly newsletter to keep up to date with programs in Island County. Email: <a href="mailto:t.wheeler-thompson@islandcountywa.gov">t.wheeler-thompson@islandcountywa.gov</a> <b>(360)632-7539</b>



## First Things First

### ♦ Is My Child/Adult Eligible for DDA?

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). If your kiddo needs a para in school, chances are they may need employment support as well. DDA may provide employment support, independent living support, if eligible.

### ♦ Apply For SSI?

Once your kiddo turns 18, they may qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) assistance.

At age 18 the family income is no longer a factor. Only the individual's income & resources. SSI wants you to work and still collect benefits.

#### What is SSI ?

- SSI stands for Supplemental Security Income
- One of the most important Federal programs for people with disabilities
- Provides monthly cash assistance to people with limited income and resources
- Is a "means-tested" program – eligibility is based on financial need

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### ♦ Can I Work and Still Keep My Benefits?

The short answer **“YES!”**. SSI offers work incentives to help you get the most out of your benefit and paycheck. Talk with a benefits planner such as DVR for more details.

### ♦ What Age Do We Start Transition Planning in an IEP?

Ideally the discussion should start as early as 14 but must start at age 16. Attending the Annual Transition and Resource Fair will connect you with providers in our community. Follow Island County Parent to Parent on Facebook for up to date details on events, trainings and resources.

What should be included in the Transition IEPs?

What age should Transition goals start in IEPs?

What is Personal Centered Planning for IEPs?

## What is Transition Planning in an IEP?

At a Glance:

- ◆ Transition planning helps students with IEPs prepare for life after high school.
- ◆ IEP transition planning must start by the time a student turns 16.
- ◆ Planning is about more than just college — it covers jobs and daily life skills too.

Transition planning is a process to help students with an [Individualized Education Program](#) (IEP) decide what they want to do after high school. It also helps them figure out how to get there. The purpose is to help teens prepare to be independent young adults.

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|---|---|
| ◆ Inclusion in general education                    | ◆ Paid work experiences                       |
| ◆ Exit exam requirements                            | ◆ Work study                                  |
| ◆ Program of study                                  | ◆ Self-care/Independent living skills         |
| ◆ Transition programs with evidence based practices | ◆ Self-determination and self-advocacy skills |
| ◆ Career awareness                                  | ◆ Social skills                               |
| ◆ Vocational Education/occupational courses         | ◆ Student support                             |
| ◆ Community experiences                             | ◆ Parent involvement and expectations         |

Transition Planning is for the Whole Person and the many different aspects of their lives



Education

Employment

Housing

Transportation

Advocacy

Recreation/ Leisure

Healthcare/Medical

Financial

Legal

Family and Parent

Support