

Transition Services & Resources

In Island County



School Age to Adulthood Quick Guide

For Individuals with Developmental Disabilities



TRANSITION TIMELINE & RESOURCES

Island County: What to Do and When to Do It - For Students Eligible for an IEP

**AGES
14-16**

Apply for a Washington State ID Card

Why? It will be needed to apply for adult services.

**SOPHOMORE
YEAR**

Apply to join the University of Washington DO-IT Program

Why? Explored careers and the world of work, learn to select and use adaptive technology, applications, software and internet resources.

**AGE 16 OR
BEFORE**

Apply to become a client of Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

Why? You may want these options when your son/daughter turns 21. Long term job coaching supports is based on availability of funding.

**AGES
18-19**

Apply for HUD Housing

Why? The wait lists for housing can be very long (years), so it is important to apply early.

**AGE
18**

If your child does not receive Social Security benefits, apply now!

He/she is now an adult, parents income is not counted. He/she may be eligible for cash and medical benefits. WORK INCENTIVE, that allow people with disabilities to keep benefits, including Medicare/Medicaid, while working.

**AGE 18 OR LAST
YEAR OF SCHOOL**

Apply for services with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Why? This agency helps people with disabilities become employed and understands how working will affect people's benefits.

**AGE
18**

Register for Selective Services

Why? It's the law. Also, if planning to apply for financial aid to college, applying for Selective Services required.

**SENIOR
YEAR**

Fill out the FREE application for Federal Aid (FAFSA)

Why? If seeking aid to attend college, this form must be filled out by March 1 of senior year for best consideration.

**AGES
19-20**

Job Foundations

Why? Connect & engage students and families with adult employment support. Outcome? Comprehensive report with next steps.

**AGE 21 TO LAST
YEAR OF SCHOOL**

School To Work Program

Why? Increase the number of DDA students who will leave school with a paycheck \$\$ plus provide smooth transition to adult services.

ANYTIME

Call Island Transit for bus travel training and Paratransit services

Why? Free training for people who want to learn to be independent on the bus and flexible alternative public transportation for people with disabilities.

ANYTIME

Connect with Island County Parent to Parent

P2P provides resources, support, workshops, and community connections through your lifelong journey of supporting families with disabilities.

It is never too early to plan for the future!

WHAT DOES EVERYDAY LIFE LOOK LIKE AFTER WE FINISH SCHOOL? WE NEED A PLAN!

As we get older, our daily activities change.

We worked to hard to help our youths be sucessful in school. We don't want them to go from graduation to the couch with endless screen time.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Work:

What support is available for youths and adults with developmental disabilities?

Education:

How is post-secondary different from high school?

Other:

Volunteering, recreational activities, self-advocacy & more.



First Things First

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 Resources Fair will connect you with providers in our community. Check Island County Developmental Disabilities website for updates.

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/194/Developmental-Disabilities-Program>

Is My Child/Adult Eligible for DDA?

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

If your youth needs a para in school, chances are they may need employment support as well. DDA may provide employment support, etc, if eligible.

Apply for SSI?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Once your youth turns 18, they may qualify for SSI assistance. At age 18 the family income is no longer a factor. Only the individuals income and resources.

Can I Work and Still Keep My Benefits?

The short answer is “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 is an Individualized Education Program (IEP)?

What is Transition Planning in an IEP?

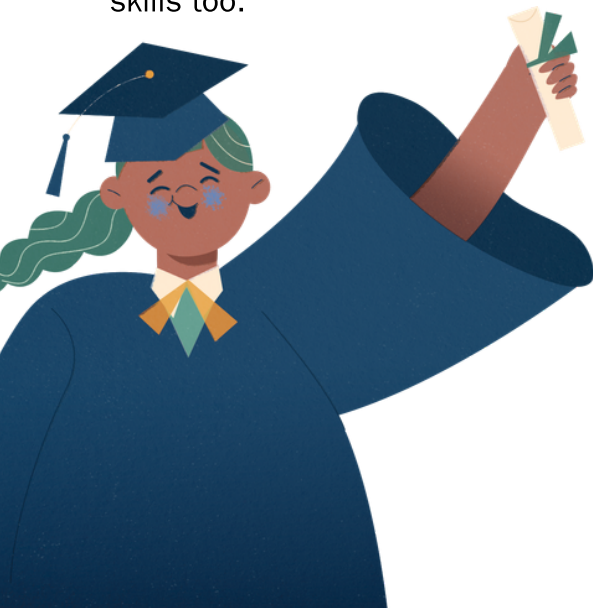
What should be included in the Transition IEPs?

What age should Transition goals start in IEPs?

What is Personal Centered Planning for IEPs?

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 as independent as possible young adults.

- Transition planning helps students with IEP's prepare for life after high school.
- IEP transition planning can start at age 14, and must start by the time a student turns 16.
- Planning is about more than college - it covers jobs and daily life skills too.



- Education
- Employment
- Housing
- Transportation
- Advocacy
- Recreation
- Leisure
- Healthcare/Medical
- Financial
- Legal
- Family & Parent Support

School to Work takes a team approach. You work with a job coach, your school, your parents, the Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and others to help you find a job before you leave. School to Work also gives you and your family information on other services and how to plan for your future. Everyone who wants to work can find a job that fits. It will look different for everyone, and sometimes some creative thinking outside the box, but everyone, and I mean everyone, has a marketable skill. It maybe one hour a week with breaks, or could have more substantial hours. Questions? Contact Mike Etzell **(360)499-5401** call/text mikeet@islandcountywa.gov
<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/194/Developmental-Disabilities-Program>



Before applying for School to Work, make sure that:

You want to work and have a job!

When to Apply: You should apply no later than the spring before your last transition exit year of school.

How to Apply: To apply, ask your teacher for help.

Apply to DVR: As soon as possible and before starting services with your School to Work provider. To apply, call **(564)900-0407**

Attend Annual Transition & Resource Fair:

Island County's Transition and Resource Fair is usually in October. Follow Island County Parent to Parent Facebook Page for updates and details.

<https://www.facebook.com/islandcountyparent2parent> 6

Developmental Disabilities

Administration DDA

DDA is a state-level government agency responsible for assessing, funding and coordinating support services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, helping them live independently and access community resources for children and adults.

To Be Eligible: Diagnosis, Age of Onset (before age 18) and Substantial Limitations.

Support & Services: Can include: Case Manager, In-Home Care, Respite Care, Housing & Residential Support, Employment, Therapies and Assistive Technology.



SSI Work Incentives



- Going to work can increase overall income
- Your SSI payment amount is adjusted when a person has other sources of income (earnings, SSDI, etc.)
- Work Incentives allow income to be excluded in order to maximize the SSI amount when a person is returning to work
- To use most work incentives:
 - Tell Social Security that you have gone to work or
 - Report changes in your earnings
- Some work incentives require you to ask Social Security to determine if you can use them



Developmental Disabilities

Administration (DDA)

(360)714-5000

Mount Vernon Office

900 E College Way Suite 100

Everett Office

840 N Broadway Suite 200

- Can apply at any age
- Must have records which show disability began before age 18
- DDA case managers can help refer to most services and supports
- Determines level/need for personal care services
- Assists with support to live with others or by yourself
- Referrals for long-term job coaching and community support after school has ended.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Mt Vernon Office

900 E College Way

(360)429-3097

Everett Office

840 N Broadway Suite 500

(425)339-4880

School Transition Counselor

(564)900-0407

- Help getting and keep a job
- Learn about skills, interests and abilities
- Information about devices used to help with work
- Short term job coaching and support on the job
- Skill training for work
- Help in understanding how work will affect social security benefits

Social Security Administration (SSA) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

(800)772-1213

(800)325-0778 TTY

Everett Office 3809 Broadway

Mt. Vernon Office 710 E College Way

- Can apply at any age
- Must have records that show disability that will substantial impact your ability to work
- May provide supplemental income based on need and disability
- Provides medical insurance through Medicaid and Medicare
- Provides incentives for individuals to work without losing medical eligibility

School District

Transition Program

Contact the Special

Education Program in your
school district

- Stanwood/Camano School District **(360)629-1236**
- South Whidbey School District **(360)221-6808
xt2206**
- Coupeville School District **(360)678-2420**
- Oak Harbor Public School **(360)279-5073**
- Educational Service District (ESD) 189
(360)299-4000

Washington State Programs

***Developmental Disabilities Administration DDA**

Everett: **(425)740-6400** Mt. Vernon **(360) 429-3103**

***Department of Vocational Rehabilitation DVR**

Mt. Vernon **(360) 429-3097** Everett **(425) 339-4880**

Island County: Karen Christian karen.christian@dshs.wa.gov **(564)900-0407**

***Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program** Island County
dadamson@samishtribe.nsn.us **(360)726-3647**

***Island County Developmental Disabilities**

Mike Etzell **(360)499-5401** mikeet@islandcountywa.gov

Employment Support Providers

***Service Alternatives (800)292-6697**

***Sherwood Community Services (425)334-4071**

***Washington Vocational Services (WVS) (360)419-0910**

Resources & Support

***Island County Parent to Parent** Tiffany Wheeler-Thompson
parent-to-parent@islandcountywa.gov **(360)632-7539** call/text
<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/198/Parent-to-Parent>

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

***High School Transition Toolkit**

<https://www.informingfamilies.org/publications/life-course-high-school-transition-toolkit>

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

***Transitioning to Adult Healthcare**

<https://www.seattlechildrens.org/patients-families/transitioning-adult-healthcare/>

For more resources and in-depth look at transition, check out Parent to Parent's website <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/198/Parent-to-Parent>

Island County Developmental Disabilities

Coordinates, funds, and manages local services for children from the ages of birth to 3 and adults 19 and older who have developmental disabilities. We work actively with families, schools, the business community, and local, state, and federal governments to facilitate full contribution for all citizens who experience developmental disabilities.

We believe that all individuals with developmental disabilities have the skills, interests, and talents to enhance our communities, and that our communities are stronger when all citizens contribute. We also know that employment is a powerful way to engage both the larger community and to continue to grow and learn. If you know an individual with a developmental disability and want to know more about employment support and community inclusion, contact Island County Developmental Disabilities Coordinator Mike Etzell.

(360)499-5401 call/text

mikeet@islandcountywa.gov

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/194/Developmental-Disabilities-Program>



Island County Parent to Parent Provides Resources, Information, Community Connections, Support & More

parent-to-parent@islandcountywa.gov (360)632-7539 call/text

Variety of resource guides, including School Age to Adulthood Guide and links on our website <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/198/Parent-to-Parent>