Module Home

**Outline­**

**School Counselors**:

Facilitating Transitions for Students with Disabilities from High School to Post-School Settings

* Module Description: This module provides information for counselors and other education professionals to assist high school students with disabilities in the transition from the school environment to a post-school setting (est. completion time: 1.5 hours).

Challenge

* Video: Sandra Montez has always dreamed about her future…

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Initial Thoughts

* What is the transition planning process for students with disabilities?
* What is the school counselor’s responsibility in the transition planning process?
* How can school counselors further promote successful transition planning?

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Perspectives & Resources

* Module Objectives
* Describe the responsibilities of the counselor as they relate to transition planning
* List the major adult-life activities to which youth will transition and provide examples of school-based approaches to prepare for those activities
* Explain briefly the importance of collaboration among programs and funding agencies to support smooth transitions to adult activities for students with disabilities

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* Page 1: An Overview of Secondary Transition
* Students with disabilities experience many changes throughout…
* Two of these transitions require specific planning under… [bullet points]
	+ Link: individualized education program (IEP) [definition]
* Audio: Listen to Ginger Blalock as she explains the consequences for…
* These include… [bullet points]
* An Overview of Transition Services [table]
	+ Link: course of study [definition]

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* Page 2: Person-Centered Planning
* The staff members at Phelan Jr./Sr. High use a person-centered…
* Active Participation in the IEP
	+ In general, when students are encouraged to… [bullet points]
	+ Audio: Amy Harris shares her thoughts about the ways in which…
* Establishing Post-Secondary Goals
	+ Link: Click to view a more detailed list of what… [drop-down menu]
* Identifying Measurable Post-Secondary Goals
	+ Education/Training
	+ Employment
		- Link: integrated or supported employment [definition]
	+ Independent Living
		- Link: adult services [definition]
	+ For Your Information
* Achieving Measurable Post-Secondary Goals
	+ This particularly important for adolescents or young… [bullet points]
	+ Deciding/Planning/Preparing/Carrying out the plan [table]
	+ Transition Update – Sandra’s Goals
		- Link: Click to view Sandra’s post-school… [drop-down menu]

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* Page 3: Transition Planning
* Transition planning is federally required for all students who have…
* Link: Click to view a sample transition services section of an IEP [PDF]
* Keep in Mind
	+ Link: Click for a brief explanation of these… [drop-down menu]
* The IEP Team
	+ Link: Click for a brief description of each role [drop-down menu]
	+ Audio: Listen to Ed O’Leary discuss the importance of creating…
	+ Transition Update – Developing Sandra’s Transition Plan

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* Page 4: Overview of a School Counselor’s Roles for Transition
* School counselors provide counseling for all students, and this can…
* As part of the transition planning process, school… [bullet points]
* Transition Update – Defining Sandra’s Goals
	+ Link: Click to view Sandra’s redefined… [drop-down menu]

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* Page 5: Transition Assessments
* To guide the transition process, school personnel use the results of…
* Areas of Data Collection
	+ Transition Assessments [table]
* Formal and Informal Transition Assessments
	+ School personnel should use a combination of… [bullet points]
	+ Audio: Listen to Ginger Blalock discuss formal assessments.
	+ Audio: Listen to Ginger Blalock discuss informal assessments.
* Guidelines for Administering Assessments
	+ Assessments should be… [bullet points]
	+ Transition Update – Determining Sandra’s Assessments

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* Page 6: Post-Secondary Preparation: Education/Training
* Measurable post-school goals for students with IEPs…
* Scheduling Courses of Study
	+ It should also be flexible, reflect the changing… [bullet points]
* Steps in the Higher Education Admissions Process
	+ Step 1: Research Higher Education Programs [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 2: Take Required Entrance Examinations [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 3: Meet with Admissions and Financial Aid [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 4: Complete Applications [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 5: Identify Accommodations [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 6: Take School-Specific Entrance Exams [drop-down menu]
	+ Step 7: Build Independent Living Skills [drop-down menu]
* Accessing Informal Training
	+ A range of more informal training options may be… [bullet points]
	+ Transition Update – Sandra’s Course of Study
		- Link: Click to view Sandra’s course of… [drop-down menu]

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* Page 7: Post-Secondary Preparation: Employment
* Measurable post-secondary employment goals are required by IDEA ’04…
* An ideal (but not exhaustive) continuum of work-based… [bullet points]
* Accommodations in the Workplace
	+ Link: voice recognition or voice output software [definition]
* Work-Related Agencies
	+ Specialized Services
		- The following list identifies some of the most… [bullet points]
	+ Generic Services
		- Some of these generic options include… [bullet points]
		- For Your Information
		- Transition Update – Supporting Sandra’s Vocational…

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* Page 8: Post-Secondary Preparation: Independent Living
* IDEA ’04 requires measurable post-secondary goals for independent…
* Self-Determination
	+ Students with self-determination can be described… [bullet points]
	+ School counselors may help students to define… [bullet points]
	+ Keep in Mind
	+ Developing Self-Determination [table]
* Social Skills
	+ Interpersonal Skills [table]
* Independence in Living
	+ For Your Information
		- Link: supported living in own apartment [definition]
		- Link: protected settings [definition]
		- Link: group homes [definition]
	+ Transition Update – Sandra Practices Self-Determination...

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* Page 9: Referrals to Other Agencies
* The ongoing involvement of post-school services, supports, programs…
* For Your Information
* Activity
* Transition Update – Sandra’s Agency Referrals

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* Page 10: Communication and Collaboration
* To be successful, transition planning requires effective communication…
* A school counselor builds relationships with and serves… [bullet points]
* Transition Update – Communication and Collaboration with… [table]

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* Page 11: Collaborative Activities for Families
* Because they are often the only constant in a student’s life…
* In regard to working with parent… [bullet points]
* Barriers to Collaboration
	+ Barriers to Collaboration/Suggestions to Overcome Barriers [table]
* Activities That Promote Collaboration
	+ Link: Parent information night [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Community Transition Teams [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Assessment results interpretation [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Resource referrals [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: College exploration [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Career exploration [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Financial planning workshops [drop-down menu]
	+ Link: Advocacy training [drop-down menu]
	+ Audio: Amy Harris shares her thoughts about the ways in which…
	+ For Your Information
	+ Transition Update – Sandra’s Family

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* Page 12: Communication with Community Organizations and Other Agencies
* One of the major goals of the transition process is to help ensure…
* Link: Post-secondary education [drop-down menu]
* Link: Vocational training and education [drop-down menu]
* Link: Independent living [drop-down menu]
* Link: Community services… [drop-down menu]
* For Your Information
* Levels of Interagency Collaboration
	+ Networking/Service Coordination/Cooperation/Collaboration [table]
* Keep in Mind
* Transition Update – Sandra’s Community Connections

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* Page 13: References & Additional Resources
* Suggested module citation
* References
* Additional Resources
* Page 14: Credits
* Content Collaborators
* Additional Content Collaboration
* Module Developer
* Additional Module Development
* Module Production Team
* Media

Wrap Up

* Summary of the module
* Video: Click on the movie below to hear Ed O’Leary summarize post…
* Revisiting Initial Thoughts

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Assessment

* Take some time now to answer the following questions.

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You Have Completed This Module

* Give Us Your Feedback
	+ Link: Module Feedback Form
* Professional Development Hours
	+ Link: IRIS PD Options
* Related Resources [link]