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## PREPARING FOR A TRANSITION IEP MEETING

A clearly communicated vision of the future can help build a common understanding so that the IEP team can work together to help the youth make a successful transition to adulthood. The student and family have unique knowledge about the student's interests and preferences as well as the greatest vested interest in the student's future. Being prepared and ready to work with the school can help make the IEP Transition planning more meaningful for the student outcomes and help build connections that will be critical to future success.

### **ASK – Discuss with your youth what is his/her dream for the future?**

- DREAMS- What dreams does he/she have after graduation?  
(Include ideas about employment, living, friendships, community activities, health/wellness, recreation and levels of independence)
- STRENGTHS/NEEDS - What level of supports are needed to make these dreams a reality? Discuss and identify the strengths that will lead to success and also the skills or supports needed to improve and any adaptations/accommodations required.
- LIST - What parts of these dreams needs to be done first? Prioritize the other issues, arranging the list by what is important to the student, who can help, and is funding or skill-building needed?
- MISSION - Make the Dream a Mission Statement for the youth. Draft a "Post School Outcome Statement." After high school, I want to..... (include living arrangements, working or learning/training, friends and fun. Example: I want to live in my own apartment. .

### **COORDINATE** - Review other program plans that provide services to your son and daughter.

- CHANGES - Check if services might change when your youth turns 18. (SSI, Title V, TEFRA, etc.)
- LEARN - Be familiar with other plans, such as a support plan if on Medicaid Waiver, to help ensure that services are coordinated.

### **PREPARE** - Write down questions you want to ask at the IEP-Transition Meeting.

- GOAL MATCHES THE DREAM - Does each IEP Annual Goal address one or more of the needs that your son/daughter and you have identified?
- TIMELINE – When will each Annual Goal be completed?
- LEAD PERSON - Who will take responsibility for initiating the services? Do services need to be coordinated with other agencies? Who will do this?
- UNMET NEEDS TO SOLVE - What is not being met? What are the support gaps which still need to be addressed? Who and how will these be resolved?

### **QUESTIONS** – Talk to others, learn more, share ideas and solutions.

- Arkansas Transition Consultants [www.arkansastransition.com](http://www.arkansastransition.com)
- Arkansas Parent Training Information Centers (PTI) 1-800-223-1330

ARKANSAS TITLE V CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL recommends this Tip Sheet to help your family in transitioning your young adult.