WHAT SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS NEED TO KNOW

David W. Test          Ozalle M. Toms          La’Shawndra C. Scroggins

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

The University of North Carolina Charlotte
This document was produced under U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs Grant No. H326J050004. Dr. Marlene Simon-Burrroughs served as the project officer. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Department Education. No official endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education of any product, commodity, service, or enterprise mentioned in this publication is intended or should be inferred. This product is public domain. Authorization to reproduce it in whole or in part is granted. While permission to reprint this publication is not necessary, the citation should be:


Published and distributed by:

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center
University of North Carolina Charlotte
College of Education, Special Education & Child Development
9201 University City Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28223
Phone: 704-687-8853
Fax: 704-687-2916
http://www.nsttac.org
http://www.uncc.edu

Printed in the United States of America
What Secondary Special Education Teachers Need to Know

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Resource(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Within the First Month</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Write IEPs that includes the required transition components

   - IDEA 2004

   - Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child is 16, and updated annually thereafter:
     - appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and where appropriate independent living skills
     - the transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching

1a. For resources on Wrightslaw there is a website that offers parents, educators, advocates, and attorneys accurate, reliable information about special education law, education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities. [http://www.wrightslaw.com/idea/law.htm](http://www.wrightslaw.com/idea/law.htm)

1b. For resources on IDEA 2004 there is a website that provides a "one-stop shop" for resources related to IDEA and its implementing regulations. [http://idea.ed.gov/](http://idea.ed.gov/)

1c. For resources on Indicator 13 visit the NSTTACE Website at: [http://nsttac.appstate.edu/content/personnel-development-resources](http://nsttac.appstate.edu/content/personnel-development-resources)

1d. Information on administrative skills to manage time and complete necessary paperwork can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-10](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-10)

1e. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on special education policy can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: [http://www.beachcenter.org/disability_policy/idea.aspx](http://www.beachcenter.org/disability_policy/idea.aspx)

1f. Information on some of the most influential disability and education laws can be located on National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities' website at: [http://nichcy.org/laws](http://nichcy.org/laws)
those goals
• beginning not later than 1 year before the child reaches the age of majority under state law, a statement that the child has been informed of the child’s rights under this title, if any, that will transfer to the child on reaching the age of majority.

Age 16 (Indicator 13)
- Current Measurement Language for Indicator 13
  “Percent of youth with IEPs aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes appropriate measurable postsecondary goals that are annually updated and based upon an age appropriate transition assessment, transition services,
including courses of study, that will reasonably enable the student to meet those postsecondary goals, and annual IEP goals related to the student’s transition services needs. There also must be evidence that the student was invited to the IEP Team meeting where transition services are to be discussed and evidence that, if appropriate, a representative of any participating agency was invited to the IEP Team meeting with the prior consent of the parent or student who has reached the age of majority.” (20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B))

2. Have knowledge of transition-

2a. For information on transition legislation:
related legislation in fields of special and vocational education, rehabilitation, labor, and civil rights.

**See Chapter 2**: Transition Legislation And Models (pp.29-53).

2b. For information on transition legislation and policy:
**See Chapter 2**: Transition Legislation and Policy: Past and Present (pp. 24-53).

2c. For more information on IDEA 2004 and transition
IDEA 2004: Improving Transition Planning and Results


2e. Information on some of the most influential disability and education laws can be located on National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities’ website at: [http://nichcy.org/laws](http://nichcy.org/laws)

3. Administer formal and informal transition assessment (i.e., self-determination, academic, career and vocational, independent living)

3a. For an Age Appropriate Transition Assessment Toolkit
NSTTAC’s Website [http://nittac.appstate.edu/content/age-appropriate-transition-assessment-toolkit](http://nittac.appstate.edu/content/age-appropriate-transition-assessment-toolkit)

3b. For information on when to conduct transition assessment:

3c. For information about transition assessment resources: This link includes sources for transition assessment information, which includes podcast, websites, and presentations
[http://nittac.appstate.edu/content/age-appropriate-transition-assessment-toolkit#other_resources](http://nittac.appstate.edu/content/age-appropriate-transition-assessment-toolkit#other_resources)

3d. For information about different types of transition assessments: Transition Coalition- this link provides reviews of various published transition assessments
3e. Information on assessments and individualized planning can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03


4d. Information on assessments and individualized planning can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03


5b. For more information on topics related to transition visit the transition coalition website, that provides online information, support, and professional development on topics related to the transition from school to adult life for youth with disabilities. http://www.transitioncoalition.org/transition/

5c. Information on programs such as Access College that use evidence-based practices can be found on the Disabilities, Opportunity, Internetworking and Technology (DO-IT) website at: http://www.washington.edu/doit/

5d. Information on assessments and individualized planning can be found on the National Collaborative on
Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03)

5e. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on person-centered planning can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: [http://www.beachcenter.org/families/person-centered_planning.aspx](http://www.beachcenter.org/families/person-centered_planning.aspx)

5f. Information on career interests, career exploration, work experience, and postsecondary options can be located on the Career One Stop’s website at: [http://www.careeronestop.org/studentsandcareeradvisors/studentsandcareeradvisors.aspx](http://www.careeronestop.org/studentsandcareeradvisors/studentsandcareeradvisors.aspx)

6. Have knowledge of how to participate with a multi-disciplinary team


6c. For information on participating with a multi-disciplinary team: PACER’s Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) Project. Focuses on helping families prepare youth with disabilities for employment and independent living. Projects provide information and training on transition planning, the adult service system, and strategies that prepare youth for successful employment, postsecondary education, and independent living outcomes. [http://www.pacer.org/tatra/](http://www.pacer.org/tatra/)

6d. Information on family and community involvement can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04)

---

**Within 3-6 Months**

1. Identify job seeking and retention skills identified by employers as [http://www.careerclusters.org/resources/web/ks.php](http://www.careerclusters.org/resources/web/ks.php)
essential for successful employment

1b. What do most employers really want?
http://www.quintcareers.com/job_skills_values.html

2. Collaborate with general education teachers to identify transition-focused instruction within academic content instruction


Describes secondary reform efforts that incorporate both standards-based education and a focus on the skills needed for successful transition to postsecondary education and employment. Asserts that a focus on transition should be implemented as a comprehensive reform effort, aligning high-quality standards with options and pathways for how students can achieve postsecondary goals.

2b. See www.nsttac.org for updated guidance and resources on this topic.

3. Evaluate students’ educational program with respect to measurable post-school goals and alignment of those goals with instructional activities

3a. Indicator 13 Training Materials
http://www.nsttac.org/content/web-based-examples-and-nonexamples-sppapr-indicator-13-checklist-overview


3c. Training modules regarding transition compliance (i.e., Best Practices) and Transition Assessment can be found at: http://www.transitioncoalition.org/transition/module_home.php

4. Utilize methods for providing work-based instruction by setting up job site in the community

4a. For information about community-based training: NSTTAC State Transition Resources Search
http://www.nsttac.org/content/transition-map
5. Provide community-based education for individuals with exceptional learning needs


6. Have knowledge of how to participate with a multi-disciplinary team


7. Match skills and interest of the student to skills and demands required by postsecondary education settings, vocational employment settings, community residential situation, and other community


7b. For information on advising high school students with postsecondary options, visit The George Washington University Heath Resource Center at:
participation options. http://www.heath.gwu.edu/assets/33/toolkit.pdf

7c. For information on teaching awareness of postsecondary options, visit The George Washington University Heath Resource Center at: http://www.heath.gwu.edu/modules/awareness-of-postsecondary-options/

7d. Information on programs such as Access College that use evidence-based practices can be found on the Disabilities, Opportunity, Internetworking and Technology (DO-IT) website at: http://www.washington.edu/doit/

7e. Information on assessments and individualized planning can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03

7f. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on person-centered planning can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/person-centered_planning.aspx

7g. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on community participation can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/participating_in_the_community.aspx

7h. An instructional video on the role of Vocational Rehabilitation in the transition process is available at: http://www.nsttac.org/content/can-vr-help-me-overview-video-students

8. Encourage a student-centered transition planning process


8c. Information on student-centered transition planning can be located in: PACER’s Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) Project. Focuses on helping families prepare youth with disabilities for employment and independent living. Projects provide information and training on transition planning, the adult service system, and strategies that prepare youth for successful employment, postsecondary education, and independent living outcomes.
http://www.pacer.org/tatra/

8d. Information on assessments and individualized planning can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03

8e. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on person-centered planning can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/person-centered_planning.aspx

9. Interpret results of transition assessment for individuals, families and professionals

9a. Resource for Completing a Summary of Performance
http://www.nsttac.org/content/completing-summary-performance-form

9b. For information on Self-directed IEP

9c. A training module on transition assessment is available at:
http://www.transitioncoalition.org/transition/module_home.php

10. Engage families in the transition planning process

10a. For information on family involvement in the transition process: PACER’s Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) Project. Focuses on helping families prepare youth with disabilities for employment and independent living. Projects provide information and training on transition planning, the adult service system, and strategies that prepare youth for successful employment, postsecondary education, and independent living outcomes.
http://www.pacer.org/tatra/

10c. Information for dissemination to parents on transition planning can be located at The George Washington University Heath Center’s website located at: http://www.heath.gwu.edu/modules/parents-guide-to-transition/

10d. Information on family and community involvement can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04

10e. Resources to work with families can be obtained from the Beach Center Family Research’s toolkit at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/family_research_toolkit.aspx

10f. Information to disseminate to families to increase their involvement in the transition process can be found on the Regional Resource Center’s website at: http://www.rrcprogram.org/component/option,com_bookmarks/Itemid,28/mode,0/catid,39/navstart,0/search,*

Within 1 Year

1. Utilize methods for providing work-based instruction by setting up job site in the community

2. Provide community-based education for individuals with exceptional learning needs


Describes the Community Transition Team model including active stakeholder participation, change viewed as a process, and support by a larger structure.

Discusses the disadvantages of community based instruction during the school day. Argues that instruction in the community separates students physically and socially isolates them from their peers. Recommends community involvement should occur when other students are typically in the community not during the school day.

2b. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on community participation can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/participating_in_the_community.aspx


3b. PACER’s Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) Project.

Focuses on helping families prepare youth with disabilities for employment and independent living. Projects provide information and training on transition planning, the adult service system, and strategies that prepare youth for successful employment, postsecondary education, and independent living outcomes.
http://www.pacer.org/tatra/

3c. Information on postsecondary career education options can be found at The George Washington University Heath Center at: http://www.heath.gwu.edu/modules/career-and-technical-education/

3d. Information on programs such as Access College that use evidence-based practices can be found on the Disabilities, Opportunity, Internetworking and Technology (DO-IT) website at: http://www.washington.edu/doit/

3e. Information on career exploration can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-06

3f. Information on career exploration can be found on the Bureau of Labor’s website at: http://www.bls.gov/k12/
4. Have knowledge of instruction for:
- teaching job seeking skills
- teaching self-determination skills
- matching students’ skills to jobs
- identifying job skills
- identifying vocational preferences
- identifying social skills

3g. Information on career interests, career exploration, work experience, and postsecondary options can be located on the Career One Stop’s website at: http://www.careeronestop.org/studentsandcareeradvisors/studentsandcareeradvisors.aspx


4b. Resources for teaching self determination skills
and


Provides information regarding transition education specifically focused for teachers and other related professionals. Information is cross-categorical and includes topics such as legislation, specific transition activities, and problem-solving strategies.


Provides recommendations based on the Life Centered Career Education program for special education teachers for students with both career and community college post-school outcomes. Includes teaching strategies that focus on daily living, personal/social, and occupational skills.


4g. For information on advising high school students with postsecondary options, visit The George Washington University Heath Resource Center at: http://www.heath.gwu.edu/assets/33/toolkit.pdf

4h. For information on transition education materials visit the Zarrow Center for Learning
5. Have knowledge of resources for individuals with disabilities in the community


5e. Information on connecting students and families with community resources can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-08](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-08)

5f. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on community participation can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: [http://www.beachcenter.org/families/participating_in_the_community.aspx](http://www.beachcenter.org/families/participating_in_the_community.aspx)

6. Facilitate access to community services


Discusses the disadvantages of community based instruction during the school day. Argues that instruction in the community separates students physically and socially isolates them from their
peers. Recommends community involvement should occur when other students are typically in the community not during the school day.

6b. PACER’s Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) Project. Focuses on helping families prepare youth with disabilities for employment and independent living. Projects provide information and training on transition planning, the adult service system, and strategies that prepare youth for successful employment, postsecondary education, and independent living outcomes.
http://www.pacer.org/tatra/

6c. Project 10’s primary charge is to assist school districts in providing appropriate planning and timely transition services and programs to assist youth with disabilities in their transition to adulthood. Project 10 also serves as a collaborative resource for other state agencies, discretionary projects, non-profit organizations, and families in the provision of transition services for students served in exceptional student education.
http://www.project10.info/

6d. Information on family and community involvement can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04

6e. Information on connecting students and families with community resources can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-08

6f. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on community participation can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/participating_in_the_community.aspx

7. Engage families in the transition planning process

7a. Parent and Family Involvement Annotated Bibliography
http://www.nsttac.org/content/parent-and-family-involvement-annotated-bibliography-prepared-nsttac-dawn-rowe


7d. Information on family and community involvement can be found on the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-04)

7e. Resources to work with families can be obtained from the Beach Center Family Research’s toolkit at: [http://www.beachcenter.org/families/family_research_toolkit.aspx](http://www.beachcenter.org/families/family_research_toolkit.aspx)

7f. Information to disseminate to families to increase their involvement in the transition process can be found on the Regional Resource Center’s website at: [http://www.rrcprogram.org/component/option,com_bookmarks/Itemid,28/mode,0/catid,39/navstart,0/search,*](http://www.rrcprogram.org/component/option,com_bookmarks/Itemid,28/mode,0/catid,39/navstart,0/search,*).

A training modules on family involvement and transition is available at: [http://www.transitioncoalition.org/transition/module_home.php](http://www.transitioncoalition.org/transition/module_home.php)

8. **Encourage a student-centered transition planning process**


8d. Information on student-centered planning can be found on the National Collaborative on
Workforce and Disability for Youth’s website at: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/ksa/competency-03

8e. Resources (e.g., books, links, newsletters, presentations, publications, and reports) on person-centered planning can be located on the Beach Center’s website at: http://www.beachcenter.org/families/person-centered_planning.aspx