

TRANSITION PLANNING

Transition Planning and services are required in the IEP from age 15 through aging out at 21 (or graduation with a diploma, if earlier).

GUARDIANSHIP OR POWER OF ATTORNEY

At the age of 18, the law presumes that people have the capacity to make their own decisions regardless of a disability.

FINDING THE RIGHT PROGRAM

- **Funding:** How is this program paid for? If using self-directed or FSS Respite programs, ask if there are any hidden/additional costs.
- **Transportation:** Does the program provide transportation to and from home?
- **Experience:** How long has the program existed? What is the experience level of the staff members and their longevity with the program?
- **Staffing Ratio:** What is the staff to participant ratio? How many people does each staff member supervise?
- **Community Experiences:** How often do people travel into the community? What other opportunities are built into the program for people to interact with other members of the community?

DAY HABILITATION

Day Programs typically operate 5 days a week and 5 hours per day and include transportation to and from program.

- **Day Habilitation Without Walls (WOW)** - greater emphasis on community integration, including volunteer work and recreational opportunities. Some do not have a home base; people are picked up and dropped off at their home.
- **Center Based Programs** - people engage in arts and crafts projects, exercise and volunteer work. These programs allow for higher staff ratios than a WOW program. Community integration is typically less.

RESIDENTIAL SETTING

- What supports (socially, physically, adaptively) does the person need? What growth opportunities are available across these domains?
- Is there access to appropriate transportation?
- What can the person afford with their benefits and/or job? What can I afford?

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