Talk to Your Child About Postsecondary Education or Training: A Checklist for Parents

Use these questions and checklist to begin a conversation with your child about postsecondary education and training. Be sure to read PACER’s handout, “Transition to Postsecondary Education or Training: What Parents Can Do Now” for more information.

What are my abilities and strengths?
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

How does my disability affect my learning and ability to show what I know on tests?
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

What accommodations do I need to be successful?
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

What postsecondary education or training programs do my teachers and school counselors recommend for my areas of interest?
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
What classes will I need to take in high school to help prepare for my future goals?

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

What else might I want to know about postsecondary education or training?

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_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Use this checklist of skills to prepare for postsecondary education or training:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>I would like help finding information about postsecondary education.</td>
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<td>I would like help finding a job training program.</td>
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<td>I would like help finding money to pay for school.</td>
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<td>I would like to live close to home.</td>
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<td>I want to live on campus.</td>
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<td>I know a school I want to attend.</td>
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<td>I want to go to a school where I know someone.</td>
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<td>I understand my rights and responsibilities as a postsecondary student.</td>
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<td>I know what type of assistive technology (AT) support and other accommodations I need to be successful.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Depending on your answers to the above statements, consider if this is an area you would like to learn more about. Share this information with your child's IEP team.