

# Transition Timeline

Age 14	Age 16	Age 17	Age 18	Age 19	Age 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn about the transition process and what that means for your child.</li> <li>• Begin to explore teen’s career and independent living goals.</li> <li>• It is suggested that teens be invited to participate in their IEP meetings and that the teams begin Transition Planning, if not already in progress.</li> <li>• A student who receives a certificate at graduation is eligible to continue receiving special education services until receipt of a signed, regular diploma or until the end of the academic year in which they turn age 21.</li> <li>• Obtain Social Security care, if not done previously.</li> <li>• Register with the Department of Health and Human Services - Developmental Disability Services (if qualified and not already registered).</li> </ul> <p><b>At age 15:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain driver’s permit or Sate ID, as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools are required to invite students to their IEP meetings.</li> <li>• IEP teams are required to develop Transition Goals with each student in special education, to be reviewed and updated each year.</li> <li>• Graduation plans must be a part of all IEPs for students 16 and over. Students in special education may attend school until the end of the academic year in which they turn age 21. Students may participate in graduation and still be eligible to continue receiving special education services, as long as they have not received a signed diploma.</li> <li>• Begin job training at school sites or in the community.</li> <li>• Explore part-time and summer employment options, if appropriate.</li> <li>• Evaluate the need for disability related benefits and Medicaid vs. competitive employment and employer insurance. Benefit analysis is available through East Seals to assist teens in this process of benefits analysis.</li> <li>• Obtain driver’s license, if appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make graduation plans or certificate of completion and attendance, if appropriate.</li> <li>• Re-evaluate benefits as needed. If appropriate, check eligibility for SSI in birth month and apply for Medicaid six months before 18th birthday. At age 18, the youth’s financial resources are considered, not the parents’. If already receiving Medicaid, eligibility is re-evaluated at age 18 with a different definition of disability.</li> <li>• Make sure your son registers with Selective Services within 30 days of his 18th birthday.</li> <li>• Register to vote if teen will be 18 by the day of the next election.</li> <li>• Begin exploring health care financing.</li> <li>• Take college entrance exams and complete applications, if Appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine if teen will be able to make own health care, financial and life decisions at age 19. Explore least restrictive alternatives, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Consult your attorney about guardianship, if that may be needed. Guardianships may be limited or full.</li> <li>• Meet and tour adult service agencies and select appropriate service providers.</li> <li>• For graduating students planning to attend college, student contacts campus student disability services to request accommodations, prior to the start of school</li> <li>• Begin voting in elections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth make their own legal decisions about their life, health care, and finances, unless they have a substitute decision-maker.</li> <li>• Continue to meet and tour adult service agencies and select service providers, if appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your son or daughter continued to attend a public school program after age 18, eligibility ends at the end of the school year in which the student turns 21.</li> <li>• Finalize arrangements for needed services with adult service providers prior to exiting a public school program</li> </ul>



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Adapted from State of Washington’s Adolescent Health Transition Program, Transition Timeline, based on a model developed by Dr. Stephen L. Kinsman, Kennedy Drieger Institute; and from PTI Nebraska’s Transition Checklist for Families. Revised by Munroe-Meyer-Institute and Ollie Webb Center, Inc. Originally supported in part by a federal grant awarded to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (11-P-92578/7-01). Most recently revised 9/17.



## Contact information for Agencies in Transition Timeline

### Developmental Disabilities (DD) Services Waiting List

Get on the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List for Nebraska no later than age 14. The application is available on the ACCESSNebraska website:

<https://dhhs-access-neb-menu.ne.gov/start/?tl=en>

The online application replaces the previous paper “referral form” process. The application primarily has questions about the person with disabilities, a checklist of documentation that may be needed to confirm the diagnosis, and consent for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to request verifying information from doctors, schools, psychologists, and the like. There should not be any questions concerning family income as it is not an eligibility factor.

An application for DD services must be completed and signed by the applicant, the parent of the applicant if the applicant is a minor child, or the applicant’s court-appointed guardian. The process of determining eligibility will not start until a signed application is received by DHHS.

Note: *Third Party Assistance*. If you are a third party providing assistance to an individual applying for DD services, applications can also be submitted by one of the following ways:

1. Printing and completing a paper copy of the application that is available on the Developmental Disabilities website. The applicant or legal guardian must sign the application.
2. Contacting the DHHS using the toll-free number: 1-877-667-6266.
3. Go to any local DHHS office for assistance. The local office in Grand Island is located at 208 N. Pine St.

### SSI/Supplemental Security Income

At age 18, you should apply for SSI, Supplemental Security Income at <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html>.

You can also call 1-800-772-1213 (7:00 am to 7:00 pm Eastern Time) Monday – Friday. TTY for deaf or hard of hearing is 1-800-325-0778.

### Guardianship or Conservatorship

Should be considered and completed by age 19.

### Medicaid

Apply at age 19. <http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/Medicaid-Eligibility.aspx>

### Service Coordination

Prior to aging out of the school system at 21, request service coordination at your local DD office. The telephone numbers for Grand Island are 308-385-6123 / 800-353-9433.