

Monthly tips and resources for young adults, their families, and supporters who are exploring options for life after high school in Indiana.

Transition IEP Glossary

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Have you led your own Case Conference Committee meeting yet? It's that meeting where you, your teachers, guardian, and support staff gather to talk about your goals for the future. If you haven't, now is a great time to learn about this meeting and how you can lead the discussion in the future. One way to prepare is to learn about words and phrases used often in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Reviewing common terms will prepare you to lead your case conference and ensure you appropriately plan for the transition. Our list is just a start, so consider working with a teacher of record or support team member to create a list tailored to your specific needs.

ABCs of the Transition IEP

Annual Goal—Statement describing the expected academic or functional performance skill for a student within a given time frame.

Apprenticeship—An arrangement in which employers pay novice workers to receive supervised training to practice the skills necessary for employment, often culminating in a certification.

Benefits—Resources from publicly funded programs that individuals can receive due to a disability or by meeting other criteria.

Compliance—The process of ensuring all policies, procedures, documentation, and actions stated in an IEP are legal, reviewed, and monitored.

Consent—Written agreement from an informed parent to all parts of the intended actions stated in the formal IEP, with awareness of the right to review and revoke at any time.

Education/Training—Learning the information and skills necessary to progress in current or future employment.

Employment—Refers to anyone receiving payment in exchange for completing specific tasks or work for themselves or another.

Functional Performance—Formal and informal assessments reflecting a student’s physical, behavioral, social, and emotional skills, sensory responses, fine and gross motor skills, and independent living skills.

Independent Living Skills—Acts and habits performed daily that a person needs to live successfully on their own (e.g., personal hygiene, time and money management, meal preparation, and communication).

Medicaid Waiver—This program allows Medicaid to fund supports and services for individuals with disabilities in their family homes or community residential programs instead of institutions.

Postsecondary Goals—Statements gathered from transition assessments that address student plans for employment, education and training, and independent living after high school.

Transfer of Rights—Refers to special education rights that move from the parents to the student at age 18 unless there is an appointed guardian or educational representative in place. After 18, students can still receive support from their parents by inviting them to meetings or granting them access to school records and information.

Transition Assessment—A means for collecting information about the strengths, preferences, interests, and needs of the student related to education and training, employment, and independent living.

Vocational Services—Instruction, guidance, or services received to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to perform a job. Vocational Rehabilitation Services is a publicly funded, state-managed service that helps people with disabilities gain or return to employment.

Resources

- Partnerships for Action, Voices for Empowerment: [“Attention Students: Lead your own IEP meetings and take charge of your future.”](#)
- [Virginia Department of Education: I’m Determined](#)
- [Seattle U: Student-led Power Point presentation templates](#)

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