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SERVICE THROUGH LEGACY PROJECTS

# Transition to Adulthood

## for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

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SPECIAL NEEDS PARENT RESOURCES FOR LIFE BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

PHYLLIS GUTHMAN AND MILLIE BUCY

*SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILY HOUR* | AUGUST 30, 2015

# Planning For Life Beyond High School

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- Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)
- Age of Majority
- Health Care: Transition, CMS, Medicaid etc.
- Relationships and Safety
- Post-Secondary Education Resources
- Employment



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## AGENCY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (APD)

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**The Agency Supports Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Living, Learning, and Working in their Communities. [apd.myflorida.com](http://apd.myflorida.com)**

Who they serve: Autism, Cerebral palsy, Spina bifida, Intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, Children age 3-5 who are at a high risk of a developmental disability

- Applying for Services [apd.myflorida.com/customers/application/](http://apd.myflorida.com/customers/application/)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [Supported Living](#)
- [Waitlist](#)



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## AGE OF MAJORITY

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In Florida, for most purposes, on the 18th birthday. Some Considerations:

- State ID
- Selective Services – It's the law. Men with Disabilities.
- Health Care
- Social Security - Benefits For People With Disabilities
- Guardianship & Special Needs Trusts (SNFH Guardianship Shows Part 1 and Part 2)



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## HEALTH CARE

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**Florida Health and Transition Services (HATS):** [www.floridahats.org](http://www.floridahats.org)

**FloridaHATS** is a collaborative initiative of the Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services Network, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, and other partners throughout the state.

**Mission:** To ensure successful transition from pediatric to adult health care for all youth and young adults in Florida, including those with disabilities, chronic health conditions or other special health care needs.



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## HEALTH CARE

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Florida Health and Transition Services (HATS): [www.floridahats.org](http://www.floridahats.org)

Resources:

- For Youth & Families
- Health Insurance & Financing
- Secondary & Post-Secondary Education
- Independent Living
- Decision-Making & Guardianship



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## HEALTH CARE

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### **Children Medical Services (CMS)**

Health Services - for eligible infants, children, adolescents, and young adults who have on-going physical or behavioral conditions.

The Children's Medical Services (CMS) Network serves eligible children with chronic and serious special health care needs from birth to age 21. CMS Network eligibility is based on a child's age, financial eligibility and clinical eligibility

### **Medicaid**

Medicaid provides medical coverage to low-income individuals and families. Medicaid services in Florida are administered by the Agency for Health Care Administration.

Medicaid eligibility in Florida is determined either by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or the Social Security Administration (for SSI recipients).

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## RELATIONSHIPS AND SAFETY

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**The Arc | HealthMeet® Resources** [www.thearc.org/healthmeet/resources](http://www.thearc.org/healthmeet/resources)

**Healthy Bodies**: A Parent's Guide on Puberty for Adolescents With Disabilities – This toolkit was developed to help support an adolescent with a disability going through puberty. It is appropriate for a broad range of disabilities and provides a variety of visual supports and social stories that deal simply and directly with the practical matters of puberty. There is a misperception that children with disabilities will also be delayed in puberty and the development of their sexuality - which isn't necessary the truth. By empowering adolescents with an understanding of their bodies it will help reduce anxiety in difficult situations and increase independence.

There are both male and female toolkits.



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## RELATIONSHIPS AND SAFETY

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**Center for Parent Information and Resources** (*Formerly NICHCY (National Information Clearinghouse for Children and Youth with Disabilities)*)

[www.parentcenterhub.org](http://www.parentcenterhub.org)

- [Sexuality Education for Students with Disabilities](#)

**Florida Developmental Disability Council (FDDC)** [www.fddc.org](http://www.fddc.org)

The mission is to advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities.

- Sexuality Education Training:  
[www.fddc.org/publications/Sexuality-Education-Training](http://www.fddc.org/publications/Sexuality-Education-Training)

- [Sexuality Across The Lifespan](#): An instructional guide for Parents / Caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS): [www.sdhc.k12.fl.us](http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us)

- [Exceptional Student Education](#) (Special Education)
  - **Transition:** Transition services are intended to prepare students to move from the world of school to the world of adulthood. Contact: Michelle Correll , Coordinator ESE Instructional Support and Transition, Email: [Michelle.Correll@sdhc.k12.fl.us](mailto:Michelle.Correll@sdhc.k12.fl.us) (813)273-7030
  - **FDLRS (Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System) Hillsborough**  
[fdlrs.mysdhc.org](http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org)



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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**Project 10: Transition Education Network**, the mission is to assist Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes. The primary conduit between the Florida Department of Education, specifically the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), and relevant school district personnel in addressing law and policy, effective practices, and research-based interventions in the area of transition services for youth with disabilities. [www.Project10.info](http://www.Project10.info)

**Project 10 Topical Briefs** are published on a monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme, such as:

- **Student Self-Determination,**
- **Self-Awareness, Self-Advocacy and**
- **Student-Directed Transition Planning**



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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**Circles of Success Website:** Designed to assist teachers, students, and families all about the value and importance of learning and having self-determination skills in order to insure a successful future in terms of independent or interdependent living skills, employment, postsecondary education and training opportunities.

**Self-determination is the process** of taking control and making decisions that affect one's life. Self-determination provides students with the skills and abilities to: *make choices, make decisions, problem solve, set and attain goals, self-advocate, independently perform*

The website was created in collaboration between the Citrus County Schools Exceptional Education Department, Project 10 Transition Education Network, and the Florida Department of Education Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services.



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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### More Resources:

**Florida Consortium on Postsecondary Education and Intellectual Disabilities**  
(existing programs in Florida for students with intellectual disabilities)

[www.fltpsid.info/Postsecondary.php](http://www.fltpsid.info/Postsecondary.php)

**HEATH Resource Center** (George Washington University) [heath.gwu.edu](http://heath.gwu.edu)

**Think College** (college options for students with intellectual disabilities)

[www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net)



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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**Hillsborough Community College (HCC)** - *Office of Services for Students with Disabilities* [www.hccfl.edu/ssem/disabilities.aspx](http://www.hccfl.edu/ssem/disabilities.aspx)  
*Learning Disabilities Specialists*

**University of South Florida (USF)** - Students with Disabilities Services  
[www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-disabilities-services](http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-disabilities-services)

**Hillsborough County Public Schools**, [Adults with Disabilities Program](http://www.brewster.edu).  
[www.brewster.edu](http://www.brewster.edu)



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## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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**Focus Academy** - Grades: 9 – 12. A charter high school for students with learning challenges. [www.focusacademytampa.org](http://www.focusacademytampa.org)

**Pepin Transitional School** (Adult) - Grades: Ages 18 – 22. Charter high school. A comprehensive individualized job training program for individuals with identified learning or learning-related disabilities.  
[pepinacademies.com/about/transitional](http://pepinacademies.com/about/transitional)

**The Learning Academy at USF** – Grades: A program designed to provide a structured employment-focused curriculum for individuals diagnosed with ASD, between the ages of 18-25 after they have graduated from high school.  
[learningacademy.fmhi.usf.edu](http://learningacademy.fmhi.usf.edu)



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## EMPLOYMENT

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**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation** [www.rehabworks.org](http://www.rehabworks.org)

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a federal-state program that helps people who have physical or mental disabilities get or keep a job. VR is committed to helping people with disabilities find meaningful careers. Brochures:

- [A Guide for Transition Youth](#)

The VR Transition Program involves a number of activities to help students with disabilities prepare and plan for employment success after high school.

- [Checklist for Students Transitioning to Adult Life](#)

This checklist assists students with creating a plan for a successful transition into employment as an adult.



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## EMPLOYMENT

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**Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC)** at the University of South Florida. [flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu](http://flfcic.fmhi.usf.edu) FCIC is committed to developing a range of supports and services in the areas of Community Supports, Transition, Education, Employment, Health...

**Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)**

➤ [Supported Employment](#)

**Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** [www.rehabworks.org](http://www.rehabworks.org)



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