

Who We Are:

Region 10 Education Service Center (ESC) is one of 20 regional service centers established by the Texas State Legislature in 1967 for the purpose of providing services to school districts and citizens within our defined geographic region. The special education component of Region 10 ESC provides leadership, training, technical assistance for students with disabilities in accordance with the Texas Education Agency's focus on increasing student achievement. Our team of special education consultants can assist with any disability. Region 10 Education Service Center, located in Richardson, provides staff development, special projects and technical assistance at no cost if you live or work within our service area. We serve the following counties:

Serving: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall Counties



For Further Information:

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PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL

Agencies and Service Providers for Students with Disabilities

Achieving successful post-secondary outcomes is a goal we have for all students. Depending on the disability and the support services required in adult life, successful transition from high school to adult life may require that planning activities begin in elementary school with students exploring their interests and preferences in middle school. Starting the process early prepares students with disabilities the time to think about what they want to do in adult life. High school transition planning includes exploring post-secondary opportunities and employment options. Additionally, transition may include connecting with the adult service agencies that help provide the student with services when he or she graduates or turn 22 years of age.

Beginning no later than the first IEP to be in effect when the eligible student is 14, or younger if the ARD committee thinks it is necessary, the IEP should include a post school vision statement as well as identify the transition services that the district or charter school will provide to support their vision. Please be aware that regardless of the severity of the disability, legal rights will transfer to your child at age 18 unless you pursue legal guardianship.

To further this effort Region 10 personnel provide staff development, training, special projects, and technical assistance to administrators, teachers, transition specialist, parents, and other agencies.

This brochure will provide parents and educators with resources to assist students in their post-secondary dreams of further education or a career.

This brochure is designed to:

- Provide information regarding agencies and service providers.
- Answer questions concerning transition but is not an endorsement of these services.

Planning for Life After School

What Does the Child Centered Legal Framework Say?

Beginning not later than the first Individualized Education Program (IEP) to be in effect when the child is 14, or younger if determined appropriate by the admission, review and dismissal committee (ARD), and updated annually thereafter, the ARD committee must:

Develop appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to:

- Training
- Education
- Employment
- Where appropriate, independent living skills; and
- Develop transition services (including courses of study needed) to assist the child in reaching these goals

If the child does not attend the ARD Committee meeting where transition services are discussed, the local education agency must take other steps to ensure the child's preferences and interests are considered.

Beginning not later than 1 year before the child reaches age eighteen (18), the ARD committee must provide a statement that the child has been informed of the child's rights under the IDEA, if any, that will transfer to the child on reaching the age of majority. (Cited from: <http://www.esc18.net/>)

What Does IDEA 2004 Say? (§300.43)

(a) Transition services means a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that

(1) Is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation;

(2) Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests; and includes;

(i) Instruction;

(ii) Related services;

(iii) Community experiences;

(iv) The development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives; and

(v) If appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and provision of a functional vocational evaluation.

Agencies and Service Providers

Reach of Dallas

Provide advocacy assistance, independent living skills training, social/ recreation activities and employment assistance.

<http://www.reachcils.org/home/dallas.php4>

Res Care Inc.

A human services company that offers housing or employment services to people of all ages and abilities to help make their lives more independent.

(888) 817-0401

www.rescare.com

Texas Education Agency Secondary Transition Guidance

Web resources for secondary transition.

(512) 463-9414

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed/guidance/transition.html>

Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services- DARS

Their mission is to work in partnership with Texans with disabilities and families with children who have developmental delays to improve the quality of their lives and to enable their full participation in society.

4800 N. Lamar Blvd.

Austin, Texas 78756

(800) 628-5115

Email: DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us

211 Texas Infoline

Area Information Center for the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems for human services.

Alternate phone number: 1-877-541-7905

Texas Project First

Created by parents, for parents that assist with supports, information and resources and training.

<http://texasprojectfirst.org/>

Texas Workforce

If you are seeking a job, they provide resources, tips and tools to build a stronger Texas workforce.

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>

Agencies and Service Providers

National Consortium on Leadership and Disability with Youth

A youth-led resource, information, and training center for youth and emerging leaders with developmental disabilities, housed at the Institute for Educational Leadership and funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities.

(877) 871-0744

<http://www.ncld-youth.info/>

National Post-Outcomes Center

A five year project funded by OSEP, they provide technical assistance and consulting services.

<http://www.psocenter.org>

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

A national Technical Assistance and Dissemination center funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs.

<http://www.nsttac.org/>

North Texas Job Corp-McKinney

North Texas Job Corps Center.

1701 N. Church Street

McKinney, TX. 75069

(972) 542-2623

<http://northtexas.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx>

PACER Center

Technical Assistance on Transition and the Rehabilitation Act (TATRA) and other parent information and training projects help families learn how they can help youth with disabilities prepare for independent living, access adult service systems, and work effectively with professionals.

<http://www.pacer.org/tatra/>

PATH

A grant project of Partners Resource Network, Inc., one of three federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI) serving Texas parents of children and youth with disabilities from the ages of 0 to 26. Services include providing training, information, and technical assistance at no cost to parents throughout the state of Texas.

<http://www.partnerstx.org/projects/PATH/index.htm>

Agencies and Service Providers

Achievement Center of Texas

Day habilitation, educational assistance and community inclusion for children and adults with special needs. ACT serves Dallas, Garland, Richardson & surrounding cities.

2950 N. Shiloh Rd.

Garland, TX. 75044

(972) 414-7700

<http://achievementcenteroftexas.org/>

The ARC of Dallas

Resources, services and information for persons with developmental disabilities for Dallas & surrounding counties.

12700 Hillcrest, Suite 200

Dallas, TX. 75230

(214) 634-9810

Fax (214) 634-9815

www.arcofdallas.org

Email: info@arcdallas.org

Citizens Development Center

Programs include: vocational training, day habilitation services, instruction and counseling in the attainment and maintenance of marketable work skills; supported job placements and follow along services.

8800 Ambassador Row

Dallas, TX. 75247

(214) 637-2911

www.cdcdallas.org

Collin College Community Colleges-Disability Services

ACCESS:

Accommodations at Collin College for Equal Support Services

<http://www.collin.edu/studentresources/disabilityservices/>

Community Homes for Adults, Inc.

Provides programs and services to enable adults with Cognitive Disabilities to live full, rich lives in a safe environment and to meaningfully participate in the community.

(214) 373-8600

www.chaidallas.org

Agencies and Service Providers

Dallas Area Rapid Transit- DART

Will provide curb-to-curb transportation for persons with documented physical disabilities that prevent the use of regular transit buses. Reduced fares for ages 12-18 and enrolled in a curriculum to obtain a high school diploma.

Customer Service: (214) 749-3333

Paratransit Service: (214)515-7272

<http://www.dart.org/riding/paratransit.asp>

Dallas County Community Colleges-Disability Services:

<http://www.dcccd.edu/CURRENT%20STUDENTS/STUDENT%20SERVICES/DISABILITY%20SERVICES/Pages/default.aspx>

Dallas Metrocare

Their mission is to: "Provide quality services, treatments and assistance to people who live with the challenges of mental illness and mental retardation.

Eligibility Determination Unit

1353 N. Westmoreland Bldg F

Dallas, TX. 75211

(214) 333-7000

www.dallasmetrocare.com

Grayson County Community Colleges-Disability Services:

Contact for accommodations while attending college.

http://www.grayson.edu/update/student_disabilities.asp

Heath Resource Center

A web-based clearinghouse that serves as an information exchange of educational resources, support services and opportunities, managed by The George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development.

<http://www.heath.gwu.edu/>

Lakes Regional MHMR

Their mission is to ensure access to services and supports that enrich the lives of the individuals and families served. Lakes Regional MHMR serves Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, & Rockwall counties.

(972) 524-4159

www.lrmhmrc.org

Agencies and Service Providers

Life Net

A comprehensive outpatient program serving adults with severe mental illness and dual diagnosis (mental illness with co-occurring substance abuse).

(214) 221-5433

www.lifenettexas.org

LifePath Systems of Collin County

Provide quality treatment, support and planning assistance to North Texas residents with special needs.

1416 North Church Street

McKinney, TX. 75069

(972) 562-0190

www.lifepathsystems.org

Mental Health Mental Retardation Services of Texoma

Their mission is to promote the accessibility of services that improve quality of life and support self-determination for persons with mental and developmental disorders. Serves Fannin & Grayson Counties

315 McLain St.

Sherman, TX. 75090

(903) 957-4700

www.mhmrst.org

Mosaic

Mosaic provides supports and advocacy in partnership with people who have disabilities.

2245 Midway Rd. #300

Carrollton, TX. 75006

(972) 886-9989

www.mosaicinfo.org

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

Coordinates national resources, offers technical assistance, and disseminates information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities in order to create opportunities to achieve a successful future.

<http://www.ncset.org/>

National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability

The source for information about employment and youth with disabilities.

(877) 871-0744

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>