



FEATURED ARTICLE

[Opening Doors to Employment](#)



All students deserve to graduate from high school feeling hopeful about their future and ready for further educational opportunities and the workforce. For students with disabilities, this can be accomplished with comprehensive advance planning for life after high school. The purpose of this handbook, *Opening Doors to Employment*, is to assist youth and their families to navigate through this planning process.

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[Preparing youth and young adults for apprenticeship programs](#)

Far too many youth, particularly those with disabilities, leave secondary education without a clear plan for post-secondary studies and careers. Youth with disabilities are half as likely as their peers to participate in post – secondary education. While transition planning is required to be included in a youth’s IEP beginning at age 16, many experts feel that the planning should begin earlier, at least by age 14.

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[Teens on IEPs: Making my transition services work for me](#)

An IEP is an individual education plan written in public school for children ages 3 to 21 that by law, describes the special education goals and services for a student with an eligible disability. Special education involves different services that help the student in a way typical instruction may not. Transition services are plans with the IEP that address specific needs in relation to life after high school.

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[Understanding the role of individual learning plans in transition planning for youth with disabilities](#)

This InfoBrief explains how schools and families can supplement the required Individualized Education Program (IEP) by using an optional Individual Learning Plan (ILP) as a tool to help youth successfully transition from high school to employment and post-secondary education. The Individual Learning Plan is a strategic tool intended to help youth identify and achieve post-secondary goals. The ILPs can be used to link a student’s career interests with the educational steps and subjects needed to enter that career.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

PROMISE Grantee 'Family Meeting'

October 1, 2015

2:00 - 3:30, EST

Annual PROMISE Meeting

REGISTER NOW!

<https://www.aucd.org/meetings/register.cfm?id=237>

November 18-19, 2015 (with the option of attending the AUCD conference -- November 16-18, 2015)

www.promisetacenter.org

How to sign up for the new PROMISE TA Center Listserv: please sign-up to the PROMISE staff listserv located at the AUCD PROMISE TA Center website. You can sign-up by using this link: http://www.promisetacenter.org/promise_ta_grantees_listserv. If you have any questions, please ask Leon (dbarnett@aucd.org) or Michael (mgm@aucd.org).

***Note:** We will no longer use the Department of Education list-serv after August 31, 2015. Thank you for your continued patience during this transition.

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