



**Space Coast
Transition Team**

SPACE COAST TRANSITION SPECTRUM OF SERVICES & GUIDE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

August, 2008

Special thanks to the members of the Space Coast Transition Team for their dedication and hard work in developing this resource. The council included school board personnel, agency employees, parent advocates, and parents. Through collaboration during the 2007-2008 school year, the team developed this document for use by educators, families, agencies, and other service providers. There will be on-going revisions as needed. For more information, contact Sandy Dacri, Transition Contact for the Brevard Public Schools at (321) 633-1000 ext. 422 or dacri.sandy@brevardschools.org.

Special thanks to the Big Bend Transition Council of Leon, Wakulla, and Gadsden counties for their comprehensive transition document entitled “Big Bend Transition Spectrum of Services and Guide for Students with Disabilities” which the Space Coast Transition Team used as their model.



Introduction to Space Coast Transition Spectrum of Services and Guide

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), children with disabilities ages 3 through 21 must have available to them a free appropriate education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for employment and independent living. The term “transition services” means a coordinated set of activities designed within an outcome-oriented process which promotes movement from school to post-school activities. The services are based on the individual’s needs and take into account the student’s strengths, preferences, and interests. In planning the type of transition services an individual needs to prepare for adulthood, the IEP Team considers areas such as postsecondary education or vocational training, employment, independent living, and community participation.

Successful transition results from students, families, educators, community, and agency partners working closely together in an on-going process. The Space Coast Transition Spectrum of Services and Guide is designed to assist in identifying and locating resources appropriate for students and families.

This document includes the Spectrum which is listed in chart form on pages 4-8, and shows transition services for students in exceptional education, ages 11 to 22. When the pages are laid side by side, one can view a full range of services that a student may be eligible to receive. Items are repeated as appropriate for each age. The number in each box corresponds to the numbered descriptions in the guide that follows. Please note that not all students may be eligible for all services. The document is intended to be a resource to assist in facilitating a seamless transition process for students in our school district who are working toward a standard or special diploma.

The Guide on pages 9-24 provides detailed information and contact sources for each of the entries on the Spectrum. The purpose is to enable the reader to understand the transition resources available and to take an active role in meeting the young adults’ needs. Please note that when “parent” is designated in the Spectrum or Guide, this also refers to guardians or surrogates.

On pages 25-27, there is a listing of transition and agency acronyms. General transition websites with contact information are located on pages 28-30.

The Space Coast Transition Spectrum of Services and Guide is intended to be a “work in progress” that will be periodically reviewed and revised. It is also the goal of the Space Coast Transition Team to also include information regarding services for students in exceptional education younger than age 11.

The Space Coast Transition Spectrum of Services and Guide can also be accessed online at:
<http://www.brevard.k12.fl.us/>.

Please submit any ideas, suggestions, or corrections to Sandy Dacri, Transition Contact for Brevard Public Schools at (321) 633-1000 ext. 422 or dacri.sandy@brevardschools.org.

The following is to be accessed as appropriate for each student

Age 11 & 12	Age 13
1. IEP process	1. IEP process
2. Family Liaison Project	2. Family Liaison Project
3. Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)	3. Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)
4. Sports, Recreation & Leisure	4. Sports, Recreation & Leisure
5. Self-determination training	5. Self-determination training
6. Access text enhancement resources	6. Access text enhancement resources
7. Mental Health Services	7. Mental Health Services
8. Assistive technology	8. Assistive technology
9. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	9. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
10. Children’s Medical Services (CMS)	10. Children’s Medical Services (CMS)
11. Brain & Spinal Cord Injury resources	11. Brain & Spinal Cord Injury resources
12. Center for Autism and Related Disabilities	12. Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
13. Visually Impaired & Blind Services	13. Visually Impaired & Blind Services
14. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services	14. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services
15. Epilepsy Association of Brevard County	15. Epilepsy Association of Brevard County
	16. Career Preparation and Assistance
	17. FL Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged
	18. Transportation and Mobility Training
	19. Volunteer Opportunities
	20. Florida Learn and Serve

The following is to be accessed as appropriate for each student

Age 18	Age 19
1. IEP process	1. IEP process
2. Family Liaison Project	2. Family Liaison Project
3. Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)	3. Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)
4. Sports, Recreation & Leisure	4. Sports, Recreation & Leisure
5. Self-determination training	5. Self-determination training
6. Access text enhancement resources	6. Access text enhancement resources
7. Mental Health Services	7. Mental Health Services
8. Assistive technology	8. Assistive technology
9. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	9. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
10. Children’s Medical Services (CMS)	10. Children’s Medical Services (CMS)
11. Brain & Spinal Cord Injury resources	11. Brain & Spinal Cord Injury resources
12. Center for Autism and Related Disabilities	12. Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
13. Visually Impaired & Blind Services	13. Visually Impaired & Blind Services
14. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services	14. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services
15. Epilepsy Association of Brevard County	15. Epilepsy Association of Brevard County
16. Career Preparation and Assistance	16. Career Preparation and Assistance
17. FL Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged	17. FL Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged
18. Transportation and Mobility Training	18. Transportation and Mobility Training
19. Volunteer Opportunities	19. Volunteer Opportunities
20. Florida Learn and Serve	20. Florida Learn and Serve
21. Diploma Options	21. Diploma Options
22. Space Coast Center for Independent Living	22. Space Coast Center for Independent Living
23. Scholarship Opportunities	23. Scholarship Opportunities
24. Brevard Job Link	24. Brevard Job Link
25. Cooperative Vocational Education , Job Placement/Supported Employment	25. Cooperative Vocational Education , Job Placement/Supported Employment
26. Youth Leadership Forum	26. Youth Leadership Forum
27. Natl. Alliance, Secondary Education & Transition	27. Natl. Alliance, Secondary Education & Transition
28. Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program	28. Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program
29. Dual Enrollment through Brevard Community College	29. Dual Enrollment through Brevard Community College
30. Vocational Rehabilitation	30. Vocational Rehabilitation
31. Job Corps	31. Job Corps
32. AmeriCorps	32. AmeriCorps
33. Community Agencies	33. Community Agencies
34. Brevard Community College	34. Brevard Community College
35. Transfer of Rights-Age of Majority	35. Transfer of Rights-Age of Majority
36. Supported Living and Employment	36. Supported Living and Employment
37. Colleges & Universities	37. Colleges & Universities
38. Adult and Community Education (ACE)	38. Adult and Community Education (ACE)
39. Medicaid	39. Medicaid
40. Guardianship, Legal and Financial Services	40. Guardianship, Legal and Financial Services
41. Advance Directives in Health Care	41. Advance Directives in Health Care
42. AKTION Club	42. AKTION Club

The following is to be accessed as appropriate for each student

Age 20, 21, 22	
1. IEP process	
2. Family Liaison Project	
3. Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)	
4. Sports, Recreation & Leisure	
5. Self-determination training	
6. Access text enhancement resources	
7. Mental Health Services	
8. Assistive technology	
9. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	
10. Children’s Medical Services (CMS)	
11. Brain & Spinal Cord Injury resources	
12. Center for Autism and Related Disabilities	
13. Visually Impaired & Blind Services	
14. Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services	
15. Epilepsy Association of Brevard County	
16. Career Preparation and Assistance	
17. FL Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged	
18. Transportation and Mobility Training	
19. Volunteer Opportunities	
20. Florida Learn and Serve	
21. Diploma Options	
22. Space Coast Center for Independent Living	
23. Scholarship Opportunities	
24. Brevard Job Link	
25. Cooperative Vocational Education , Job Placement/Supported Employment	
26. Youth Leadership Forum	
27. Natl. Alliance, Secondary Education & Transition	
28. Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program	
29. Dual Enrollment through Brevard Community College	
30. Vocational Rehabilitation	
31. Job Corps	
32. AmeriCorps	
33. Community Agencies	
34. Brevard Community College	
35. Transfer of Rights-Age of Majority	
36. Supported Living and Employment	
37. Colleges & Universities	
38. Adult and Community Education (ACE)	
39. Medicaid	
40. Guardianship, Legal and Financial Services	
41. Advance Directives in Health Care	
42. AKTION Club	

Guide for the Space Coast Transition Spectrum of Services

The numbered items below provide details to the spectrum of services. To find the information on specific services listed on the spectrum, match the numbers. Note - When 'parent' is designated; this also denotes guardians and surrogates.

1- IEP Process

- An individual educational plan (IEP) is an evolving plan which is developed, reviewed, and revised for each eligible child with a disability served by the school district, or other state agency that provides special education and related services.
- Prior to age 14, the IEP team should discuss transition issues to determine strengths, weaknesses, interests, agency involvement, community participation, recreation and leisure activities, etc.
- Beginning at age 14 (on or before the student's 14th birthday) and annually thereafter, the student is required to have a Transition IEP (TIEP). This must address the following:
 - The student's desired post-school outcome statement must be developed and recorded on the Transition IEP. The statement reflects the student's desires for postsecondary education, employment, living arrangements, community participation, recreation and leisure, and social relationships.
 - The statement of the student's transition service needs that focuses on the student's courses of study must be documented. The statement describes the instructional program and experiences to be provided to the student.
 - The decision to pursue a standard or special diploma must be addressed and documented during the student's 8th-grade year or during the year of the student's 14th birthday, whichever occurs first.
 - There must be documentation that provisions of instruction or information for the student in the area of self-determination – to effectively participate in Transition IEP meetings and advocate for self must be provided.
 - The student's needs, preferences, and interests must be considered.
- Consent of the parents or a student who has reached the age of majority is required in order to invite agency representatives that are likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services.
- Any agency, service organization, or program involved with the student needs to be invited to the IEP by the student, parent and/or teacher.
- Written consent is required in order to share written information
- The team needs to identify an IEP member or designee who will follow up with agencies, as needed, and verify provision of services.
- When the student reaches age 15, the Transition IEP team will review all elements of the previous Transition IEP and update and revise as appropriate.
- Beginning on or before the student's 16th birthday (or younger if determined appropriate by the Transition IEP team) additional requirements are added to the age 14 and 15 requirements. These include:
 - Developing measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training or education, employment, and independent living (where appropriate)
 - Developing a statement of needed transition services in the transition services activity areas of instruction, related services, community experiences, employment, post-school adult living, and, if appropriate, daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation
 - If the Transition IEP team determines that no services are needed in any of the required areas, the team must document that no services are needed.
- During the years in which the student is aged 17 and 18, all previous Transition IEP requirements apply with the following additional requirements:
 - At least one year prior to the student's 18th birthday, the student and his or her parent must be informed of the rights that will transfer to the student upon his or her 18th birthday. (The transition IEP must document that this information has been provided.)

- When the student reaches his or her 18th birthday, a notice regarding the transfer of rights must be provided to the parent and student.
- During the years in which the student is aged 19 through 21, all of the previous Transition IEP requirements apply.
- Students who have not reached age 22 and who have not earned a standard diploma are entitled to a free appropriate public education. A student may continue to attend school through his or her 22nd birthday or, at the discretion of the school district, the school year in which the student turns age 22.

2- Family Liaison Project (FLP)

- FLP helps families having children with disabilities overcome educational issues. The mission of Family Liaison Project is to build an active network of support to nurture and sustain families of children with disabilities through life's transitions. The FLP encourages families to look at the future of their children emerging as productive adults living independently.
- For more information go to www.familyliaisonproject.com or call (321) 723-2677 ext. 14507 or ext. 14508

3-Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)

- Provides community services to persons who have Mental Retardation, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Prader-Willi or Spina Bifida. They also assist in providing specialized services managed by a support coordinator. These services include, but are not limited to, supported employment, supported living, residential, and in-home support services. They can be contacted at: (321) 409-6518 <http://apd.myflorida.com>.
- Formerly known as Developmental Services (DS).
- Parents can apply when children are age 3 years and older; apply early because there is a waiting list.
- Contact your APD Support Coordinator to find out your wait list status.
- If your child is on the APD waiting list and is a danger to him/herself and others, homeless, or the caregiver is unable to give care, please contact the APD Support Coordinator (488-6500) for crisis consideration.
- Contact your APD Support Coordinator if there are changes in addresses and phone numbers.
- Referral process and referral forms are available at the local APD office at 305 East Drive, Suite L, West Melbourne, FL. Telephone: (321) 409-6518.

4-Sports Recreation & Leisure

- Brevard Parks & Recreation -The program offers a wide variety of activities for developmentally and physically challenged individuals. Activities offer opportunities to socialize, practice new skills, participate in field trips, learn life skills, establish new friendships, and serve the community. Youth summer and holiday camps are also offered. Adult activities include bingo, dances, arts and crafts, nature education, field trips, and karaoke.
www.brevardparks.com/disabilities/index.php

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association - Resource for outdoor activity and accessibility
www.fdoa.org

- Challenger Little League - Baseball, ages 5 to 18
 - *Palm Bay West Challenger Little League*
Debra L. Raketsky, (321) 213-7494
 - *Rockledge Challenger Little League*
Christy Long, (321) 636-5661
 - *Viera Suntree Challenger Little League*
Charlie Crawford, (321) 961-2178 or Dave Zavetz, zavetz@earthlink.net
<http://www.vierasuntreelittleleague.org/>

- Greener Pastures Therapeutic Riding Center - Horses Helping People to Strengthen Inside and Out (321) 724-5008, <http://www.greenerpasturestrc.org/>
- Harmony Farms - Improving the quality of life for handicapped individuals through interaction with horses - therapeutic horseback riding (321) 631-9433, www.harmonyfarmsinc.com
- HorseSisters and Associates - Horses helping humans - therapeutic horseback riding (321) 385-0216, www.horsesisters.org
- Space Coast Challenged Amateur Athletic Union (SCCAAU) - Baseball, basketball, bowling, Cheer, dance, social activities, and weightlifting for athletes ages 6 through adult Christi Long, (321) 636-5661
- Special Olympic Brevard County - Track and Field, Bocce ball, Volleyball, Basketball, Bowling, Swimming, Equestrian for all ages Cindy Dropeski, (321) 253-2663, cindydropeski@intercoastalinsurance.com, www.sobrevard.org
- Special Spotlight Theatre - This 20-year-old organization is dedicated to the cultural enrichment of special needs people. It presents one production each year featuring special needs entertainers. It is based at the Henegar Center for the Arts, 625 E. New Haven Ave., Melbourne.
- TOPSoccer - Soccer for school aged athletes with disabilities Ashley Olyphant, (321) 258-0205 or (321) 917-8272
- Very Special Arts - VSA of Brevard is the local affiliate of an international organization that creates learning opportunities through the arts for people with disabilities. The organization offers arts-based programs for special needs children and adults in Brevard County, FL. (321) 632-8610, <http://www.vsabrevard.org/>

5-Self-Determination Training

- Self-determination training provides instruction to individuals on how to sort out their dreams, needs, goals, and preferences; they learn how to take control and make decisions about their own lives. The training helps individuals learn the importance of making their own choices, setting their own goals, managing their own lives, and participating in decisions about their lives. Students who participate in setting their own goals are more successful in achieving their goals.
- Students must be involved in their educational decisions and actively participate in or lead their own IEP meetings starting at age 14.
- Teachers provide direct instruction to students in available curriculums elementary through adult (i.e. *Standing Up for Me, Standing Up for Me for Adults, Dare to Dream, Dare to Dream for Adults, and Simply Careers*). These materials are available at no cost from the Clearinghouse Information Center, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, Florida Department of Education, Room 628 Turlington Building, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400. Telephone: (850) 245-0477; Email: cicbiscs@FLDOE.org.
- For more information regarding training, contact (321) 633-1000 ext. 520 in Brevard County or Sheila Gritz, Florida Department of Education (850) 245-0478; Sheila.Gritz@fldoe.org.

6-Access text enhancement resources

- RFB & D (Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic), Learning through Listening, is a national non-profit organization that accommodates documented print-disabled students with audio books and specialized equipment that allows them to have equal access to the printed word; serves students throughout their educational careers, from kindergarten through college; contact by phone, (321) 952-4404, or web site, www.rfbd.org.

- Accessible Book Collection is a non-profit corporation that provides high interest/low reading level digital text to qualified persons with disabilities. There is a nominal annual subscription fee. Go to: www.accessiblebookcollection.org.
- Bookshare.org provides access to books for the community of visually impaired and print disabled individuals. There is a nominal fee. Go to: www.bookshare.org.

7-Mental Health Services

- Advocacy Organizations
The National Mental Health Association maintains a referral and information center. Local groups have information about community services.
National Mental Health Association Information Center, 1021 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-2971. Phone: (703) 684-7722, Fax: (703) 684-5968, Toll-free: (800) 969-6642
TTY: (800)-433-5959, Email: infoctr@nmha.org, Internet: www.nmha.org
- Family Support
Florida Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
A Project of the Florida Institute for Family Involvement
3927 Spring Creek Highway, Crawfordville, FL 32327. Phone: (850) 309-3020, Fax: (240) 358-6542, E-mail: cjwells@sprynet.com, Internet: www.fifionline.org
- The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
The local self-help groups have support and advocacy components and offer education and information about community services for families and individuals.
NAMI Florida, 1020 East Lafayette Street, Suite 102, Tallahassee, FL 3230.
Phone: (850) 671-4445, Fax: (850) 671-5272, Toll-free: (877) NAMIFLA (626-4352),
E-mail: namifl@unr.net, <http://www.namifl.org>
- State Mental Health Agency
Department of Children and Families, 1317 Winewood Boulevard, Building 3, Room 102
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700. Phone: (850) 488-8304, Fax: (850) 487-2239,
Internet: www.state.fl.us/cf_web/
- State Protection and Advocacy Agency
Agencies are mandated to protect and advocate for the rights of people with mental illnesses and to investigate reports of abuse and neglect in facilities that care for or treat individuals with mental illnesses.
Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities 2671 Executive Center Circle West, Webster Building, Suite 100, Tallahassee, FL 32301-5092. Phone: (850) 488-9071, Fax: (850) 488-8640
Toll-free: (800) 342-0823 (Statewide), TDD: (800) 346-4127
E-mail: info@advocacycenter.org, Internet: www.advocacycenter.org

Local Resources:

- Children's Home Society of Florida/Brevard – Child/family support; case management, youth shelter, and counseling services Phone: (321) 752-3170 or (877) 891-2325 <http://www.chsfl.org/>
- Circles of Care – Mental health/substance abuse; families in recovery/intake service counseling for abuse/neglect victims Phone: (321) 722-5200 for crisis unit/emergency phone (321)722-5257
- Crosswinds Youth Services – Crisis line/emergency youth shelter (12-17), youth and family counseling Phone (321)452-0800 – 24 hours www.crosswindsyouthservices.org
- Devereux – Treatment for self-harm borderline personality adolescent Phone: (321) 752-3111
- Family Counseling Center – Counseling Phone (321) 632-5792
- Intervention Services – Counseling Phone (321) 639-1224
- KidsPeace – Counseling Phone (321) 631-7740 or (800) 257-3223
- Women's Center – Information/referrals/victim advocacy (321) 242-3110
<http://www.womenscenterinbrevard.org/counseling.html>

8-Assistive Technology (AT)

- Assistive Technology as part of the IEP for each eligible student (Birth- age 22)
Assistive technology (AT) is any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of children with disabilities. (29 U.S.C. Sec 2202(2))
- Begins during Pre-K and is utilized through high school, as necessary. Prior to graduation, the IEP team must develop a plan in the student's transition IEP to transfer the technology or facilitate the acquisition of new equipment.
- The referral process varies among districts, but if a solution to a student need cannot be obtained at the school level, the referral goes to the district's Local Assistive Technology Specialist (LATS). The LATS Team reviews the referral, gathers information and shares its recommendation with the IEP team. It is recommended that the parent stay in contact with the school's referral coordinator or their child's ESE teacher to check on the status of the referral.
- The Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST) strives to improve the quality of life for all Floridians with disabilities through advocacy and awareness activities that increase access to and acquisition of assistive services and technology. Call (888) 788.9216 Fax: (850) 487.3278 or visit <http://www.faaast.org/>
- Local Assistive Technology Specialist (LATS) is an interdisciplinary group of educators and other professionals who are knowledgeable regarding recommendations for a student's Individualized Education Program as it relates to assistive technology needs. The team consults with families and school staff to analyze what the educational tasks are for non-disabled students of the same chronological age. The team helps family members and school staff to determine how many of these requirements could be completely or partially fulfilled if the student with disabilities had access to appropriate assistive technology. Contact Sherri Hayes at (321) 633-1000 ext. 505 to contact the LATS team.
- FDLRS/East provides assistance and support in the appropriate use of a variety of technologies for students, teachers, professional staff, and parents. The Technology specialist promotes local awareness, identification, acquisition, and effective integration of assistive and adaptive technologies, including FCAT accommodations. Contact Robin Gipson at (321) 633-1000 extension 560.

9-Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- A program through the Federal government that is administered by the Social Security Administration
- Can provide monetary assistance to individuals of all ages with a disability who meet specific criteria
- In cases where there is a deceased or retired parent, or a parent with a disability, additional benefits may be available to the family
- Visit www.ssa.gov or contact the local office at South Office at (321)255-5510, 2301 W. Eau Gallie Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32935 or Central Office- (321) 639-2656, 814 Dixon Blvd., Cocoa, FL 32922

10-Children's Medical Services (CMS)

- The Children's Medical Services (CMS) is a program of the Florida Department of Health (DOH). It provides children with special health care needs with a family centered, managed system of care. Children with special health care needs are those children under age 21 whose serious or chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions require extensive preventive and maintenance care beyond that required by typically healthy children.
- CMS provides a comprehensive continuum of medical and supporting services to medically and financially eligible children and high-risk pregnant women. The continuum of care includes prevention and early intervention programs, primary care, medical and therapeutic specialty care and long-term care. Services are provided through an integrated statewide system that includes local, regional, and tertiary care facilities and providers.

- For more information, contact the local office: CMS-Rockledge, 1133 Seminole Drive, Rockledge, FL 32955, telephone: (321) 690-3850.

11-Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Program (BSCIP), Florida Department of Health

- The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program can provide acute care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, transitional living services, adaptive equipment, home modifications, and other services necessary for community reintegration. Services are provided through state designated and approved facilities. Case Management is the primary service that is available to assist clients and their families.
- Any resident who sustains a brain or spinal cord injury and who meets the following requirements is eligible: has been referred to the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program Central Registry (1-800-342-0778), is a legal resident of Florida, is medically stable, meets the state definition for spinal cord and/or moderate to severe brain injury, and is reasonably expected to benefit from rehabilitation services based on the goal of community reintegration. The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program is expanding its range of services to include long term care supports to ensure the health and safety of Individuals with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injuries in their community. These may include supports such as: personal care assistance, adult companion services, life skills training environmental accessibility adaptation, personal adjustment counseling, and community support coordination.
- Contact **FAAST, Inc.** - Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology
325 John Knox Road, Building 400, Suite 402, Tallahassee, Florida 32303. Telephone: (850) 487-3278 · 1-888-788-9216.

12-Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)

- CARD provides support and assistance with the goal of optimizing the potential of people with autism, dual sensory impairment, and related disabilities.
- Provides assistance to individuals with autism and related disabilities and their support teams.
- Provides community education training to the public regarding the needs of people on the autism spectrum.
- Contact (888) 558-1908 or (407) 737-2566 or <http://www.ucf-card.org>

13-Florida Division of Blind Services

- Provide services to residents in the state who have visual impairments constituting a significant impairment to daily living and employment
- The programs are divided into Blind Babies, Children's Program, Transition, Vocational, and Independent Living for Adults Program (primarily for individuals over the age of 65). Most services are located in the Vocational Program which serves consumers 18 and older. These may include sight restoration, preservation, training including college, and provision of assistive technology and adaptive devices.
- Any of the local offices can provide more detailed information about the agency. The Brevard County office is located at 113 King Street, Cocoa, FL 32922. The numbers are (321) 504-3334; fax (321) 504-3336.

14-Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services

- Space Coast Center for Independent Living (SCCIL) - General statement of services: Information & referral, independent living skills training, advocacy; peer support, social/recreational opportunities, low-cost wheelchair accessible transportation, sign language interpreter referral services, specialized telephones and equipment for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/blind or speech impaired, high school transitioning services, accessibility services, and volunteer program
- Contact the local office at 803 N. Fiske Blvd., Ste. B, Cocoa, FL 32922-7323 – (321) 633-6011, email: lfowler@bellsouth.net.

15-Epilepsy Association of Central Florida

- The Epilepsy Association of Central Florida is dedicated to improving the quality of life of persons with epilepsy and reducing the incidence of onset.
- Services available include: case management, medical services, prevention & education programs, employment services, resource center, information & referral services, telephone networks, and advocacy services.
- Contact the local office at 1600 Sarno Road, Suite 119, Melbourne, FL 32940 – (321) 253-4112 – www.epilepsy-cy.org

16-Career Preparation and Assistance

- Career preparation and readiness are offered in a wide range of career and technical education programs. These programs in Brevard Public Schools begin with exploratory instruction at the middle school level. High school transition support services and job-preparatory instruction are provided to support occupational interests. The regular job preparatory curriculum may be modified for secondary students with disabilities resulting in an individualized program leading to specific careers.
- The Office of Career and Technical Education staff provides support to teachers with special populations. Support from district staff includes identifying strategies and accommodations to the learning environment or modifications to the curriculum if recommended by an Individual Education Plan.
- Brevard Public Schools Transition Support Programs continuum helps students with disabilities explore the many possibilities for careers in the community. These programs serve individuals at the Independent and Supported Levels from age 14 to adult and include: World of Work (WOW) at the middle school level; Practical Applications of Career Exploration (PACE) at the 9th and 10th grade level, Learn to Earn Internship Program, Job Placement and Supported Employment (JPSE) for students who are 16 and ready to begin employment. The Learner Empowerment through Agency Partnerships (LEAP) is for individuals 18 years-22 years in high school or adults in the community to learn social, personal, and employability skills at eight training sites in Brevard County.
- For information on all of these programs, call (321) 633-1000 ext. 379.

17-FL Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged

- The Florida Transportation Commission was created by the 1987 Legislature to serve as a citizen's oversight board for the Florida Department of Transportation. The commission is independent of the department. Legislature has defined disadvantages as "those persons, who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age, are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are disabled or high risk."
- The commission administers a toll free number (800) 983-2435 to assist persons who:
 - Want to find out where to go for transportation assistance
 - Want answers to questions about the Transportation Disadvantaged Program.
 - Want to work out problems with transportation service
- The local planner for this organization is Jim Liesenfelt from Space Coast Area Transit – 321-635-7815 ext. 231. The Orlando area contact is Donna Loggie at (407) 513-3000.

18-Transportation and Mobility Training

- The training is provided for individuals with visual impairments for orientation and mobility.
- This could be a component of Community Based Instruction (CBI) but is not formally required by Brevard Public Schools. Local school management can decide if it is included through the office of Karen Palladino, Office of Administrative Support Services. Telephone: (321) 633-1000.
- Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT) will provide individual training upon request. Telephone: (321) 633-1878, or for south mainland, (321) 952-4672

- Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT) – a department of the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners that operates fixed routes, paratransit, ADA paratransit, and specialized services to Brevard County residents and visitors.
 - SCAT provides public bus and trolley services on 14 routes county wide.
 - All fixed route buses and trolleys are equipped with bicycle racks, wheelchair lifts, and communication systems that link each vehicle to SCAT’s operations center.
 - Full fixed route fares are \$1.25 and half fares for seniors (60 years or older), veterans, individuals with disabilities, and students. Medicare cards are accepted as proof for half fare.
 - Paratransit services are designed to provide services to the mobility and transportation freedom of disabled citizens. The fare for riders is \$2.50 and \$1.25 for the elderly and disabled.
 - ADA paratransit is a service that allows pickups and destinations only within ¼ mile of a SCAT fixed route. Fares can be no more than twice the regular bus fare.
 - For additional bus information, call: (321) 633-1878, or for south mainland, (321) 952-4672.

19-Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer Brevard serves the community by coordinating volunteer efforts throughout the county by providing the following:
 - Serve individual residents by matching them with positions that fit their interests and skills
 - Aid local organizations and government agencies by matching volunteer interests with agency needs
 - Assist with filling hundreds of volunteer opportunities and assist an increasingly diverse database of individuals with locating volunteer opportunities that fit their interests and skills
- Contact Volunteer Brevard at (321) 631-1522 or www.volunteerbrevard.org

20-Florida Learn and Serve

- Florida Learn and Serve is a federally funded program that awards grants to teachers, schools and school districts to engage youth in service learning. This program provides opportunities for students to engage in community service while attending school, kindergarten to college.
 - Funding available to establish a project to address a critical need in the community.
 - Funding can be used for transition projects or pilots.
 - Provides opportunities to practice employability skills.
 - Information available at www.fsu.edu/~flserve/whoweare.html.

21-Diploma Options

- The IEP team must make an initial diploma decision at the IEP meeting during the student’s eighth-grade year or during the school year of the student’s 14th birthday (whichever comes first).
- It is important that families be fully informed about diploma options because a student’s opportunities for employment, further education and training, and military service after graduation may depend on the type of diploma that the student earns. The diploma decision may be changed later through an IEP meeting if necessary.
- Diploma options are:
 - Standard Diploma- The student must earn an overall 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale, earn a passing score on both portions of the grade 10 Florida Comprehensive Test (FCAT), and successfully complete credits in required subject areas.
 - Standard Diploma with FCAT Waiver- For students with disabilities who have not passed the grade 10 FCAT, the IEP team may waive the FCAT requirement for graduation. There are specific requirements.
 - Special Diploma Option 1- certifies mastery of the Sunshine State Standards Access Points.
 - Special Diploma Option 2- certifies mastery of employment and community competencies

- Teachers and parents may request the resources: “Diploma Decisions for Students with Disabilities-What Parents Need to Know”, and “High School Diploma Options for Students with Disabilities”. These provide detailed information on diploma options.

22-Space Coast Center for Independent Living

- Provides resources and services for people with disabilities of all ages to live as independently as possible
- Services include advocacy, information referral, peer support, and independent living skills training.
- Disability knows no age limit. For more information, call the main number (321) 633-6011. The main office is located at 803 N Fiske Blvd. STE B, Cocoa, FL 32922

23-Scholarship Opportunities

- Scholarship money for college or vocational training. See the school guidance counselor for specific and current information.
- Scholarship America – It’s mission is to mobilize America, through scholarships and educational support, to make postsecondary education possible for all students. The organization offers tips, resources and opportunities to begin the scholarship search.
- Dollars for Scholars®, a division of Scholarship America, is a volunteer-operated, community-based scholarship foundation that helps hometown students achieve their educational goals by raising scholarship funds, establishing endowments, providing assistance with college readiness and the financial aid process, and distributing scholarships each year. Contact information: CSF of Indian River County, Ms. Lisa Zahner, P.O. Box 1820, Vero Beach, FL, (772) 569-9869, (772) 770-6181, DollarScholarIRC@aol.com or Orlando Learning Coalition Dollars for Scholars, Mr. Arto Woodley, Jr., 3000 C R Smith St., Orlando, FL 32805, (407) 293-3000, olc@fl-o.org.

24-Brevard Job Link

- Brevard Job Link is a network of one-stop career centers offering a variety of services to job seekers and businesses from one convenient location in three areas of the county.
- Services available include:
 - Computerized job search information
 - Employability skills workshops
 - Individual career assessment and counseling
 - Job Club
 - Computers equipped with job search resources and internet access
- Brevard Job Link also offers special programs such as:
 - Career assistance programs for low-income youth
 - Adult education and General Equivalency Diploma (GED) classes
 - Training scholarships for those who qualify
- To find a location near you or to obtain more information, call (321) 540-7600 in Brevard, or go to www.brevardjoblink.org or www.brevardyouthworks.org.

25-Cooperative Vocational Education, Job Placement/Supported Employment

- In the Cooperative Vocational Education program students earn credits both in school and out-of-school by participating in job experiences. This includes classroom work participation in non-paid work based learning experience sites and paid employment.
- State Apprenticeship Program – Apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction in which workers learn the practical and theoretical aspects of a highly skilled occupation.
 - Apprentices who complete registered apprenticeship programs are accepted by the industry as journeymen.
 - Certifications earned through registered apprenticeship programs are recognized nationwide.
 - Applicants for apprenticeship programs must be at least 16 years old and meet the program sponsor’s qualifications.

- Areas of training: auto repair, electrical, plumber and pipe fitters, carpenters, machinists, building maintenance repair
- Brevard Community college-Cocoa, Florida Medical Training Institute-Melbourne, Interstate Trucking Academy, Inc.-Melbourne, Keiser College-Melbourne
- For additional information and enrollment, contact John J. (Joe) Daly, ATR Email: John.Daly@fldoe.org covering counties of Brevard, Flagler, Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Volusia or Steven Campora, Director of Apprenticeship Program, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street #754 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400, Telephone (850) 245-0454, Fax: (850) 245-9010, Email: steve.campora@fldoe.org. For information regarding apprenticeship programs at BCC, telephone (321) 433-7410 for the Cocoa campus or (321) 433-5294 for the Palm Bay campus.

26-Youth Leadership Forum

- The Florida Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is an annual career and leadership training program that is both educational and motivational to junior and senior high school students.
- The YLF is one of four youth programs of The Able Trust that works to reduce the dropout rate of youth with disabilities and improve their participation in employment-related activities. These programs focus on building self-esteem, developing personal leadership skills, and preparing young adults with disabilities for life beyond high school
- YLF sponsors an annual career and leadership training program that is both educational and motivational. High school juniors and seniors are selected each summer to spend a week in Tallahassee learning about disability history, community and academic resources, career options, and personal leadership. They also take part in social activities that will enable them to network and learn from each other and build friendships that will last a lifetime.
- For additional information, email Alana@abletrust.org

27-National Alliance, Secondary Education & Transition

- The National Alliance for Secondary Education and Transition (NASSET) is a national voluntary coalition of more than 40 organizations and advocacy groups representing special education, general education, career and technical education, youth development, multicultural perspectives, and parents.
- Go to www.nasetalliance.org for information about policies and practices in providing effective secondary education and transition services, such as schooling, career preparatory experiences, youth development and leadership, family involvement and connecting activities.

28-Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program

- A Work Incentive Coordinator will assist with understanding work incentives, Medicare, Medicaid health care coverage, and other programs and issues to ensure more successful employment and financial outcomes; prior to calling know if you received Supplemental Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Insurance (SSI).
- Formerly the Benefits Planning Assistance and Outreach Program (BPOA)
- Provides benefit options to students and families
- Parents and educators may contact coordinator, Don Hendricks at the WIPA office located at Brevard Achievement Center, Melbourne. Telephone (321) 610-2160 ext. 207

29-Dual Enrollment

- Qualified students can begin college while still in high school through dual enrollment. The program offers courses at either the students' high school or select Florida public colleges for both high school and college credits. Many students opt to enroll at Brevard County Community College (BCC) for dual enrollment courses. Through an articulation agreement with BCC, Brevard Public Schools has one of the leading dual enrollment programs in the state of Florida. Brevard Public Schools also can partner with other state universities that let high school students attend for dual enrollment classes. Students can take both academic and vocational classes for credits towards an Associate of Arts Degree, Associate in Science Degree or Technical Certificate.

- While the dual enrollment is available to qualified students in grades 10th through 12th, high school seniors can apply for early admissions. The program allows seniors to attend college full-time during their senior year and still earn credits towards high school graduation. There is no charge for college tuition or books at Florida public colleges where a partnership exists. Contact your high school for more information.

30-Vocational Rehabilitation

- VR is an employment outcome based program designed to provide services to individuals with disabilities prepare for, obtain, keep, or regain employment
- VR is voluntary, confidential, and begins as an individual transitions from high school into the labor force, training, or higher education.
- Services are currently funded through federal and state governments.
- Services are based on the person's disability and vocational goal.
- Process for Transition Services Referral -VR Transition Services are designed to assist students with disabilities as they transition from high school to a successful employment outcome and inclusion in the adult community as a productive citizen. The objective is to provide a seamless transition from school to adult life, with a vocational plan called an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) in place prior to graduation or exit. The IPE is to be coordinated with the student's transition Individual Education Plan (IEP) outlining the VR eligible student's desired post school employment goal and the services required to meet it. IPE services may include post-secondary education or training necessary to reach the student's employment goal, or assistance with direct placement into employment when the student leaves the school system. The VR Counselor is responsible for determining the student's eligibility for VR services and for developing the IPE with eligible students before they exit high school.
- A VR representative (VR Counselor or VR Technician) may be invited to attend transition IEP meetings at the school when the student turns 16 (or earlier if the student is identified as high risk of dropping out) to address the individual's post-high school employment related needs and provide information about VR services. Transition students are encouraged to apply for VR at age 16 if they require VR services not available in the schools to participate in community work experience. Otherwise, the referral should take place in January of the year prior to the students' anticipated exit. This allows sufficient time for processing applications, determining eligibility, and completing vocational plans. Coordination and communication between VR staff, school staff, students, parents and other agencies that may be involved in transition is essential to ensure the successful transition of students with disabilities.
- Contact the appropriate office:
Melbourne/Palm Bay - 1049 Eber Blvd., Suite 101, Melbourne, FL 32904,
(321) 984-4869
Cocoa - 1970 Michican Ave., Building E, Cocoa , FL 32922
(321) 690-3280
Titusville - 815 S. Washington Ave., Suite 102, Titusville, FL 32780
(321) 383-5101

31-Job Corps

- Job Corps is a no cost education and vocational training program by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps economically disadvantaged young people age 16-24 obtain a vocational trade at the same time they are completing their high school diploma or GED. Students learn needed skills to become self-sufficient.
- For more information, go to <http://jobcorps.dol.gov> or call (800) 733-5627. The Bevard County Admissions Counselor is located locally at Brevard Job Link. Call (321) 394-0574.

32-AmeriCorps

- AmeriCorps programs provide a direct service in local communities by providing mentoring opportunities, job training, career exploration and networking opportunities.
- Students can shadow AmeriCorps members while in school or volunteer.

- When students graduate from high school, they can become **AmeriCorps** members and receive a living allowance and an educational award.
- Contact at 850.921.5172, or www.volunteerflorida.org.

33-Community Agencies

- **Brevard Achievement Center (BAC)**

The mission of the Brevard Achievement Center is to assist individuals with disabilities achieve vocational and social independence. In association with Brevard Public Schools, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Blind Services and other partners, our Employment Staff works with hundreds of individuals each year in preparing for and securing employment.

- Transition support services for Brevard Public Schools
- Adult Day Training
- Vocational Evaluations
- Vocational Assessments
- Supported Employment including Job Coaching
- Job Placement
- Follow Along Services

For more information, contact the main office at: 1845 Cogswell Street, Rockledge, FL 32955.

Telephone: (321) 632-8610 or the Melbourne Office at:

(321) 610-2160. <http://bacbrevard.com>

- **Behavior Services of Brevard**

The mission of Behavior Services of Brevard is to assist the individuals we serve to achieve their highest level of fulfillment, personal independence, and integration in their home, school, place of work and community environments by providing the highest quality teaching and training of self care skills, self-monitoring skills, appropriate social skills, functional academics/educational skills and vocational skills. Individuals served may be adults with developmental disabilities age 16 or over, individuals with dangerous and/or challenging behaviors, individuals with skill deficits, and individuals in need of meaningful daytime activities that may not be able to access other programs or community resources due to behavioral excesses, deficits, or exclusionary behaviors. Services provided:

- ADT
- Community Based Instruction
- Adult Basic Education Class
- In-Home Behavior Services
- Counseling
- Supported Employment
- Supported Living
- Personal Care Assistants (behavioral)

For more information, contact (321) 639-9800.

- **Bridges**

Bridges is a community based organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing informed choices for children and adults with disabilities. They offer a flexible range of cost sensitive, practical solutions to the challenges in life through employment, residential, advocacy, therapeutic, and educational programs. Some of these services include:

- Family liaison – support groups, transitioning from Early Steps, IEP workshops, communication methods, social interactions, and disability awareness
- Community training program – community awareness, opportunities to work in the community, career exploration, job skills, daily living, adult basic education
- Periodic services – companion services, in-home support services, personal care assistance service, respite services,
- Residential / Supported living - supported living coaches with visitation and group homes.

- Brevard Business Leadership Network (BBLN)
The Brevard Business Leadership Network is dedicated to promoting the employment of qualified workers who have disabilities, and assisting business and organizations in the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of employees with disabilities. BBLN now has its own employment agency. For more information, contact Betsy Farmer, Executive Director at P.O. Box 100024, Palm Bay, FL 32910-0024. Telephone: (321) 536-7062. Email: betsy@brevardbln.org.
- East Coast Contract Industries (ECCI)
 - East Coast Contract Industries is an Adult Day Training Program which supports and encourages each individual with developmental disabilities to choose meaningful training opportunities in an environment that promotes independence and choice, dignity, happiness and opportunities to learn daily living and work skills.
 - ECCI offers specialized areas to allow experience of a broad spectrum of training to support their goals and interests, support friendships in the community, encourage self-sufficiency through Adult Basic Education, and provide opportunities to participate in paid work experiences that may lead to future supported employment opportunities.
 - ECCI benefits from the consulting services of our own team of professionals, including a physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech therapist, certified behavioral analyst, dietician and nursing services.
 - For more information, contact the main office at 3550 South Washington Avenue, Suite 6, Titusville, FL. 32780. Telephone: (321) 268-4388.
- Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Inc.
 - Goodwill provides job placement services for individuals 16 and over.
 - Goodwill works with individuals seeking employment, including those with disabilities, special needs, or other barriers to employment. Staff assists individuals in becoming self-sufficient, more marketable in the community, and to build self-esteem.
 - Goodwill provides clients the tools to effectively search for jobs themselves.
 - Goodwill offers the following free services:
 - Job Listings – job openings in a variety of categories
 - Job Club – a three-day class teaching job search skills, proper interviewing techniques focusing on strengths, self-marketing techniques, applications, resumes, job-keeping skills, career decision-making, and goal setting
 - Employee Development Program – up to six months of paid job training experience for persons with disabilities in need of vocational training services; direct placement assistance for job-ready individuals with disabilities
 - GOAL Temporary Work Program – short-term work for job-seekers 18 years and older
 - Computer skills classes
 - Ex-offender seminars
 - Resume workshops and service
 - Job-seeking faxing service
 - Computer access
 - Answering Service for job-seekers without phones
 - Telephones for Local job search purposes
 - ACCESS-DCF computer dedicated to food stamp/financial aid application process
 - Employers' Discussion Group on interviewing techniques
 - Call the Melbourne Self-Sufficiency Job Center, 795 S Babcock Street, Melbourne, FL 32901 Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00 at (321) 953-8188.
- Hands-On Employment Services
 - This agency provides job placement, job coaching, on-the-job training, adjustment training, and job accommodations. Referrals are sent to the corporate office in Tampa. Address: Hands-On Employment Services, P.O. Box 1987, Tampa, FL 33685. Telephone: (813) 886-5600.
 - For more information, contact the Brevard contact, Lee Ann Ireland at (321) 961-1803.

34-Brevard Community College

- The Office for Students with disabilities at Brevard Community College assists students with documented disabilities by providing reasonable accommodations/services on a case-by-case basis. Adaptive furniture, equipment, specialized computer software, academic advisement, administration of placement and classroom tests, services of a sign language interpreter, and services of learning disability specialists are available to assist students in reaching their educational goals.
- Call the OSD on your campus to register: Director: (321) 433-5598, Titusville: (321) 433-5017, Cocoa: (321) 433-7295, Melbourne: (321) 433-5650, Palm Bay: (321) 433-5172.
- Brevard Community College offers online courses and non-credit courses as well as standard for-credit courses for a variety of programs. Go to the BCC website: <http://www.brevardcc.edu> for more information. Registration forms for the OSD can be located at <http://www.brevardcc.edu/osd>.

35-Transfer of Rights-Age of Majority

- The 1997 amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the final regulations implementing IDEA require that when a student with disabilities reaches the age of majority (18) under state law, both the parent and the student must be notified of the transfer of Exceptional Student Education rights to the student. Additionally, at least one year prior to the student's eighteenth (18th) birthday, the IEP must include a statement that the student has been informed of the rights that will transfer to him or her upon reaching the age of majority.
- The school district is responsible for providing the notice of transfer of rights at age 18 unless they are notified of and provided a copy of any existing court order that prevents this transfer.
- In Florida, when a student with disabilities reaches the age of 18 the following ESE rights transfer to the student (unless they have been determined incompetent): the right to examine records, the right to participate in meetings and to make educational and other decisions, the right to give consent, the right to obtain an independent evaluation, and the right to request mediation and/or a due process hearing.

36-Supported Living and Employment

- If a client of APD, review plan to include supported living and employment
 - Supported living provides assistance to adult consumers who require ongoing supports to live as independently as possible in their own homes, to be integrated into the community, and to participate in community life to the fullest extent possible.
 - Supported employment services include assistance for the individual to obtain and maintain full or part time competitive employment in an integrated work setting.
 - Meet with the support coordinator to learn about supported employment and supported living. Decide if these services are needed.
 - Ask the support coordinator about the Social Security Work Incentives developed by the Ticket to Work Legislation in 1999.
- These support services may be provided by a job coach or employment specialist.
- Additional information is available at the local APD office on 1591 Robert Conlan Blvd, Palm Bay, FL. Telephone (321) 409-6518

37-Colleges & Universities

- Students interested in continuing their education at a four-year college, a two-year college, or at a business, trade, or technical school should begin early in their high school career to formulate their plans.
- Admission to college is based upon an evaluation of one's grade point average (GPA), standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) recommendations, and personal data (which may include a written essay).
- Students should check college catalogs and discuss their plans with their school counselor.
- www.FACTS.org is Florida's Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students. Sponsored by the Department of Education and the Florida Center for Advising & Academic Support, this free

online advising website helps students plan and track their education progress from middle school through college.

38-Brevard Adult and Community Education (ACE)

- The mission of the Adult/Community School Program is to provide comprehensive programs to improve the employability of the state's workforce through academic and community-based fee supported instruction for lifelong learning.
- Adult education's primary function is to reduce under-education and illiteracy among adults in Brevard County. Basic educational skills are considered requisite to effective citizenship and productive employment. Program goals for adult education and literacy are:
 - to assist adults in becoming literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency
 - to assist adults who are parents in obtaining the educational skills necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children
 - to assist adults in completing high school or the equivalent.
- Adult Education is an open entry/open exit performance based format which allows you to register any time during a term and progress at your own speed. Our programs are open to anyone 16 or older who is not attending compulsory day school and has officially withdrawn from the K-12 program. Instruction is free unless the student holds a high school diploma and scores above 8.9 on the TABE Test. The fee schedule for resident non-exempt students and non-resident non-exempt students can be obtained by contacting the center you wish to attend.
- For additional information, contact the ACE office in your area.

39.-Medicaid

- Inform students and parents of changes in **Medicaid** at age 18
 - Medicaid is a government-sponsored health insurance program for low-income families, recipients of SSI, and the “medically needy”.
 - If a student is receiving Social Security benefits, these benefits will change upon reaching the age of 18.
- See Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program in this Guide.

40-Guardianship, Legal and Financial Services

- Verify status of **guardianship** at IEP meeting at age 18
- For all persons who might need decision-making assistance for any reason (e.g. dementia, head trauma, mental illness or any other disability) - Guardianship requires two actions by the court: an adjudication of incapacity of the individual, and a transfer of authority of some or all of the person's rights.
- There are varying levels of guardianship and four are listed below.
 - (1) Emergency Temporary Guardianship is an order by a court appointing a temporary guardian where there appears to be imminent danger to the person. This is only done after a petition for incapacity has been filed. This type of guardianship expires if the court does not proceed with a permanent guardianship proceeding.
 - (2) Limited Guardianship is an order by a court adjudicating the individual incapacitated in specific areas and appointing a guardian or co-guardian in those particular areas.
 - (3) Full (plenary) Guardianship is an order by a court adjudicating the individual incapacitated and appointing a guardian or co-guardian in all delegable legal rights and powers. It removes all rights relating to both person and property.
 - (4) Guardian Ad Litem Program - Volunteers are assigned to represent cases involving abused or neglected children in criminal, family, or juvenile court. Referrals to this program can only be made by the court and the Department of Children and Families. Families may request services from the judge. The volunteers are court-appointed to represent the child's best interest.

- For more information, contact The Moore Justice Center, 2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL 32940. Telephone: (321) 690-6823

41-Advance Directives in Health Care

- A document that details the individual's health care directives in the event he/she becomes unable to make this decision due to a life-threatening illness.
- There are 3 types of advance directives:
 - 1) Durable Power of Attorney-gives another person the legal authority to make decisions on specific matters for a person
 - 2) Living Will-directs what kind of medical procedures a person wants if he/she has a terminal illness or is in a persistent vegetative state
 - 3) Health Care Surrogate-names another person to make medical decisions for a person if he/she is unable to make decisions for themselves
 - Must be legally competent when signing an advance directive
 - Does not require a lawyer, only the signature of two witnesses
 - Forms are available from hospitals or from Aging with Dignity at www.fivewishes.org
 - Give completed forms to your doctor, family, the witnesses, your lawyer, and other involved persons

42-AKTION Club

- The AKTION Club is community-service group for adult citizens who live with a disability.
- The mission is to provide an opportunity to develop initiative and leadership skills, serve the community, and demonstrate the dignity and value of citizens living with disabilities.
- AKTION Club is a member of the sponsored organizations and programs at Kiwanis International.
- For additional information, go to www.aktionclub.org, or contact locally Barbara Perkins, at mooselady33@bellsouth.net, telephone (321)298-6382; or Karen Johnson, at Johnson@titusville.org, telephone (321) 267-3036.

Transition and Agency Acronyms

ACE	Adult and Community Education
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADT	Adult Day Training
APD	Agency for Persons with Disabilities
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder
ASVAB	Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
AT	Assistive Technology
ATEN	Assistive Technology Educational Network
BAC	Brevard Achievement Center
BBLN	Brevard Business Leadership Network
BCC	Brevard Community College
BCE	Business Cooperative Education
BSCIP	Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program
BWBD	Brevard Workforce Development Board
CARD	Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
CBI	Community Based Instruction
CBVA	Community Based Vocational Assessment
CC	Community College
CEC	Council for Exceptional Students
CHS	Children's Home Society
CIC	Community Intervention Center
CIL	Center for Independent Living
CMS	Children's Medical Services
CP	Cerebral Palsy
CPT	College Placement Test
CTE	Career & Technical Education
CVI	Center for the Visually Impaired
DBS	Division of Blind Services
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DCT	Diversified Cooperative Training
DD	Developmentally Delayed or Developmental Disability
DHH/HI	Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Hearing Impaired
DJJ	Department of Juvenile Justice
DMH	Department of Mental Health
DOE	Department of Education
DOH	Department of Health
DPN	Disability Program Navigator
DSI	Dual Sensory Impaired
DVR	Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
EBD	Emotional Behavioral Disability
ECCI	East Coast Contact Industries
ESE	Exceptional Student Education
FAAST	Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology
FAMU	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
FAPE	Free and Appropriate Public Education
FCAT	Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test
FDDC	Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
FDLRS	Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System
FDOA	Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

FETPIP	Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program
FIN	Florida Inclusion Network
FIT	Florida Institute of Technology
FND	Florida Network on Disabilities
FSDB	Florida School for the Deaf and Blind
FSU	Florida State University
GED	General Education Diploma
HI	Hearing Impaired
ICB	Interagency Council of Brevard
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP	Individual Education Plan
IPE	Individual Plan for Employment
LATS	Local Assistive Technology Specialist
LEAP	Learner Empowerment Through Agency Partnerships
LD	Learning Disability
LEA	Local Education Agency
LI	Language Impaired
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment
MH	Mental Health
MOCP	Modified Occupational Completion Point
OCP	Occupational Completion Point
OHI	Other Health Impaired
OI	Orthopedically Impaired
OJT	On the Job Training
OSD	Office for Students with Disabilities
OT	Occupational Therapy or Therapist
PACE	Practical Application for Career Exploration
PASS	Plan to Achieve Self-Sufficiency
PASSD	Performance Assessment System for Students with Disabilities
PDS	Personnel Development Services
PI	Physically Impaired
PIT	Partners in Transition
PT	Physical Therapy or Therapist
RFB&D	Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic
SCE	Supported Competitive Employment
SE	Supported Employment
SEDNET	Severely Emotionally Disturbed Network
SI	Speech Impaired
SLD	Specific Learning Disability
SSDI	Supplemental Security Disability Income
SSI	Social Security Income
SSS	Sunshine State Standards
STW	School to Work
TABE	Test for Adult Basic Education
TAP	Technical Assistance Paper
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TCM	Targeted Case Manager
TDD	Telecommunications Device for the Deaf
TIEP	Transition Individual Education Plan
TIP	Transition to Independence Process
TOPPS	Training Opportunities and Placement Program for Students

UCF	University of Central Florida
UCP	United Cerebral Palsy
VI	Visually Impaired
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation
WFD	Workforce Development
WIA	Workforce Investment Act
WIPA	Work Incentives and Planning Assistance
WOW	World of Work
504	Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act

General Transition Resources Websites and Contact Information

National

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

<http://www.cec.sped.org>

Toll free – 866-915-5000

Information about special education research, publications, conferences, and professional development opportunities. Information about a variety of professional topics can be accessed from this site.

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT)

<http://www.dcdt.org>

Information about career development and transition services, including publications and transition resources. Includes links to information about transition-related topics.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education

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

Includes links to databases, research, and other on-line resources.

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)

<http://www.NICHCY.org>

Toll free – 800-695-0285

Information about infants, toddlers, and youth with disabilities, federal legislation, and research-based effective educational practices.

National Alliance for Secondary Education and Transition (NASSET)

<http://www.nasetalliance.org>

Not toll free – 612-624-1143

Information about policies and practices in providing effective secondary education and transition services.

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET)

University of Minnesota

Not toll free – 612-624-2097

<http://www.ncset.org>

Information about secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities. Includes links to Youthhood.org, a resource to help teens plan their futures.

Healthy and Ready to Work

<http://www.HRTW.org>

Information for youth with special health care needs, chronic health conditions, and disabilities to assist them to transition to all aspects of adulthood. Includes checklists and other tools and information.

DisabilityInfo.gov

<http://www.DisabilityInfo.gov>

Federal government disability-related information organized around the topics of employment, education, housing, transportation, health, benefits, technology, community life, and civil rights.

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth

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

Toll free – 877-871-0744

Includes information about employment and youth with disabilities and other transition topics with links for young adults to resources and publications (e.g., High School-High Tech and other hot topics).

National Youth Sites

Youthhood.org

<http://www.Youthhood.org>

Links for youth and links for adults designed to help young adults plan for life after high school.

Family Voices – Kids as Self-Advocates (KASA)

<http://www.FVKASA.org>

Not toll free – 773-338-5541

A national network of youth with special needs – “by youth, for youth” – to develop leadership and provide transition information.

National Alliance for Secondary Education and Transition (NASSET)

<http://www.nasetalliance.org>

Not toll free – 612-624-1143

Includes information about schooling, career preparatory experience, and youth development and leadership.

Florida

Family Network on Disabilities (FND)

<http://www.fndfl.org>; www.fyitransition.com

Toll free outside Pinellas County – 800-825-5736

Pinellas County – 727-523-1130

Information and resources on education and advocacy for families of children with disabilities. Includes link to Tiles Project (Transition, Independent Living, Employment and Supports). TILES Project provides workshops throughout Florida on topics such as assistive technology, transition, and Individual Plans for Employment (IPE).

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC)

<http://www.fddc.org>

Toll free – 800-580-7801

Information about Florida policies and practices affecting individuals with developmental disabilities. Includes links to resources and publications.

Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (FSDB) has outreach services, www.fsdb.k12.fl.us/outreach
Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing, www.fsdb.k12.fl.us/rmc

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, www.agbell.org

Hands and Voices, <http://www.handsandvoices.org/>

American Society of Deaf Children, <http://www.deafchildren.org>

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)

<http://www.faast.org>

Toll free outside Tallahassee – 888-788-9216

Tallahassee – 850-487-3278

Information about assistive technology for school, work, home, and in the community.

Florida Independent Living Council (FILC)

<http://www.FLAILC.org>

Toll free – 877-822-1993

TTY – 850-488-5624

Information and resources that promote independent living in Florida for people with disabilities.

The Able Trust

<http://www.abletrust.org>

The Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Project

<http://tip.fmhi.usf.edu/>

Florida Agencies and Organizations

Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)

<http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/index.shtml>

AHCA oversees Medicaid and Medicaid Waiver

Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)

<http://apd.myflorida.com>

Not toll free – 850-487-1992 (Area APD administration serving counties including Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla)

Information for persons with developmental disabilities and their families to assist them in obtaining services. Provides information about related services and supports to persons with developmental disabilities. For more information call 1-866-APD-CARES.

Florida Department of Education (DOE)

<http://www.fldoe.org>

Information about all aspects of education in Florida, pre-kindergarten through postsecondary.

Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)

<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/>

Florida Department of Education, Division of Community Colleges, <http://www.fldoe.org/cc/>

Florida Department of Education, Division of Colleges and Universities, <http://www.fldcu.org/>

Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

<http://www.rehabworks.org/>, phone, 850.245.3430

Workforce Florida, <http://www.workforceflorida.com/>

Workforce Innovation, <http://floridajobs.org/>

Department of Health, <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/>, includes health information and location of County Health Departments

Children's Medical Services (CMS), <http://www.cms-kids.com/default.htm>, includes information about services available from CMS and location of offices. Information and resources for youth transition is located under <http://www.cms-kids.com/CMSTransition.htm>