
Transition Planning and Services for Students and Youth with Disabilities

Presentation to the Board of Regents
November 2017



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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BLUEPRINT FOR IMPROVED RESULTS
FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students engage in **self-advocacy** and are involved in determining their own educational goals and plan.

Parents, and other family members, are **engaged as meaningful partners** in the special education process and the education of their child.

Teachers design, provide, and assess the effectiveness of **specially designed instruction** to provide students with disabilities with access to participate and progress in the general education curriculum.

Teachers provide **research-based instructional teaching and learning strategies** and supports for students with disabilities.

Schools provide **multi-tiered systems of behavioral and academic support**.

Schools provide **high quality inclusive programs and activities**.

Schools provide appropriate instruction for students with disabilities in **career development and opportunities to participate in work-based learning**.

Special Education Transition Requirements

- Transition planning and services
 - Beginning the school year in which a student turns age 15, students **must be provided instruction, coursework, and transition activities to meet their post-school goals** for education, training, employment, and where appropriate, independent living.

Office of Special Education Transition Responsibilities and Initiatives

- Monitoring of Appropriate Transition Planning and Services
 - Annual collection and reporting of district data specific to compliance with transition components in the IEP
- Regional Professional Development
 - Transition Specialists
 - Transition Professional Development Support Center
 - Parent Centers
 - Regional Interagency Collaborations
 - Collaboration with ACCES-VR's Community Employment Specialists and Community-based Providers

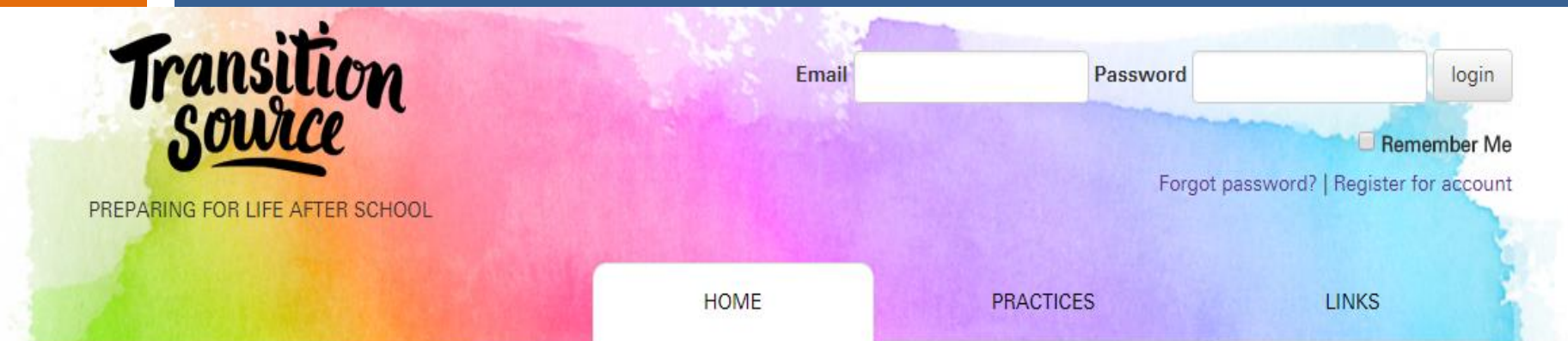
Office of Special Education Transition Initiatives

- Informing Future Policy and Technical Assistance Initiatives
 - **Secondary Transition Workgroup**
 - Analyzing results for districts including transition components in the IEP
 - **Youth Advisory Panel**
 - 11 young adults with a variety of disabilities
 - Advises on policy issues related to education of students with disabilities
 - Ongoing meetings with ACCES-VR

Office of Special Education Transition Initiatives

- Grants
 - **Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income (PROMISE) Grant**
 - Federally funded grant
 - ACCES-VR and Office of Special Education are key participants
 - **Program Development Grant to Prepare Students with Disabilities to Exit School with Work Readiness Skills**
 - Enhance instructional programs to help students fulfill requirements for NYS Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential

www.TransitionSource.org



Welcome to TransitionSource

TransitionSource is New York's one-stop website, advancing the post-school outcomes of students with disabilities. Visitors to TransitionSource can:



Link to Resources



Find Helpful Agencies



Discover What
is Working

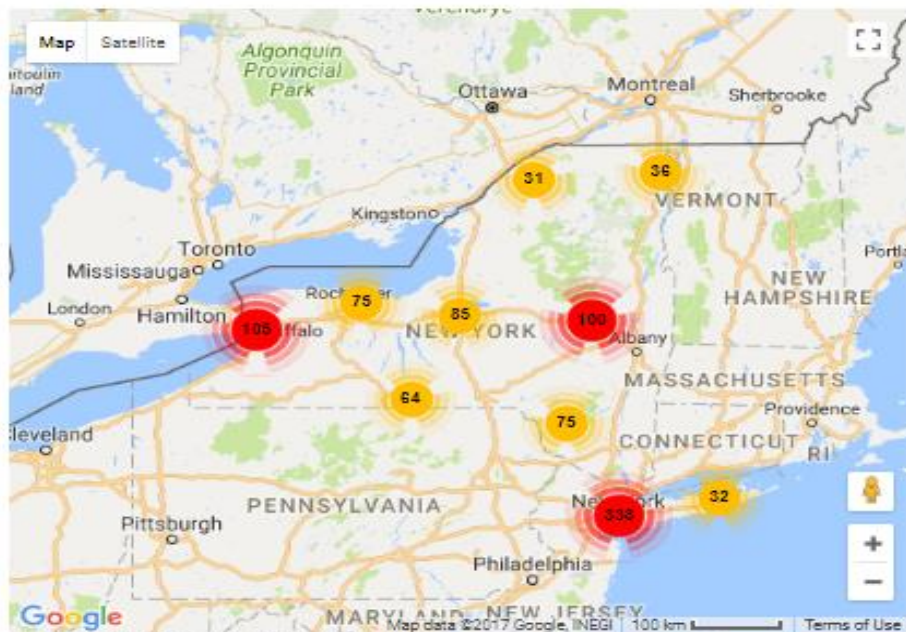


Learn What
is Required

By creating a TransitionSource account, you can:

- Create or join a group for sharing and collaborating
- Develop a plan to improve your school's transition services
- Receive transition-related news and updates by email

TRANSITION RESOURCE MAP



AGENCY SEARCH RESULTS

- New York City DSS
- Queens One-Stop Career Center
- NYS Office of Mental Health
- Barrier Free Living, Inc
- Chemung/Schuyler/Steuben Workforce Development
- Chemung/Schuyler/Steuben Workforce New York
- Chenango/Delaware/Otsego Workforce- Norwich
- Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc.

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SEARCH BY AGENCY NAME

Enter Agency Name

SEARCH

OR

SEARCH AGENCIES BY LOCATION AND SERVICES

Select a county in New York State

-- All Counties --

Select type of services

Check All

▼ Employment

- Paid employment (summer or after school job)
- Work experience (volunteer, intern, apprentice)
- Skill development (technology, employability skills)
- Career development (career counseling, job club, mentor)
- On-the-job training and support (job coach, assistive technology)

▶ Community Living

▶ Education

▶ Civic Engagement

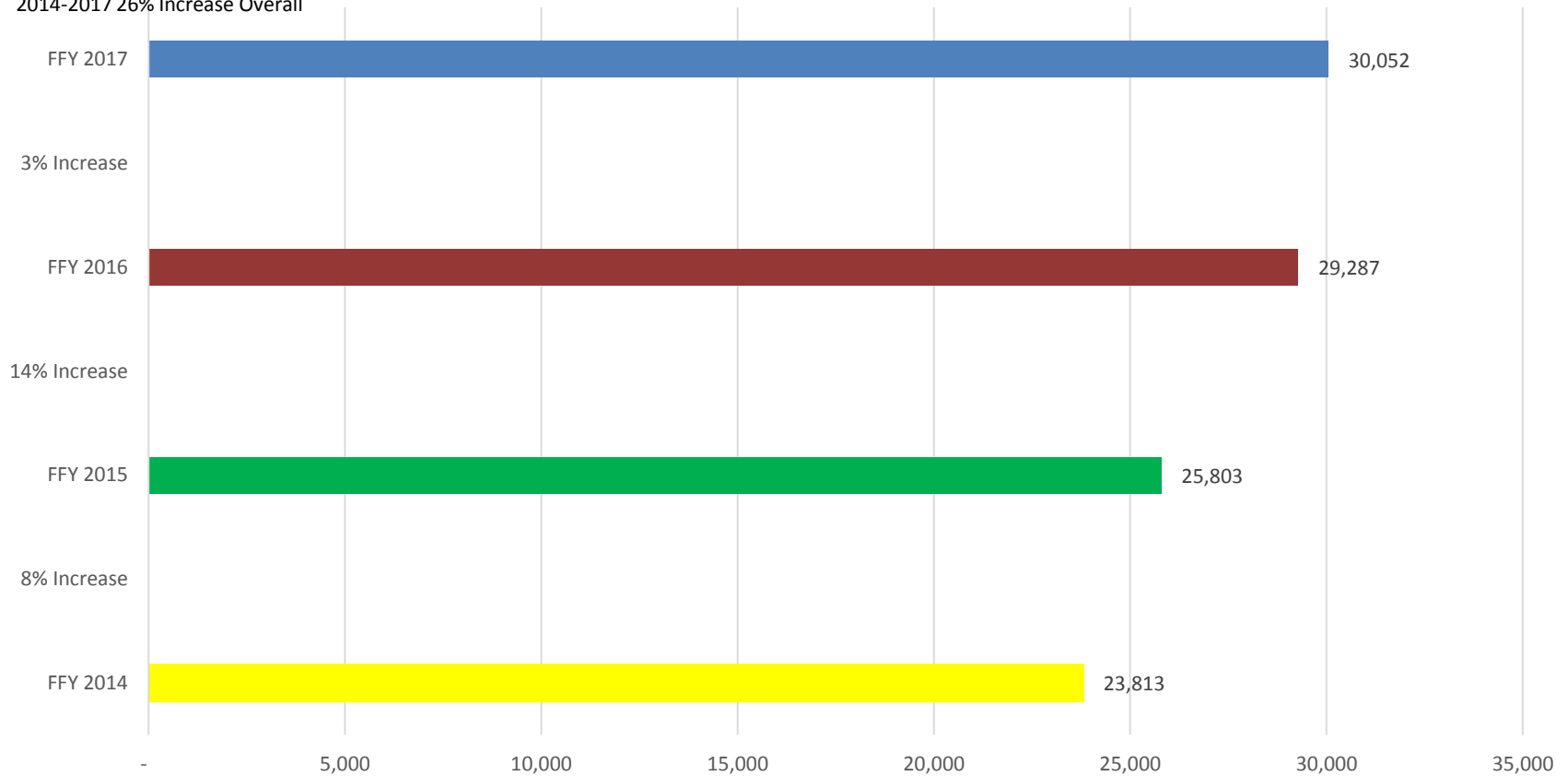
▼ Highlighted Agencies

- ACCES-VR District Offices
- OPWDD Regional Offices
- Independent Living Centers
- Special Education Parent Centers
- NYS Career Centers

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

Youth Caseload Trend

2014-2017 26% Increase Overall



Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

- Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA)
 - A new service provision in WIOA requires ACCES to provide specific Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to in school students with disabilities.
 - These services include:
 - job and career exploration counseling and activities;
 - work-based learning experiences;
 - counseling on postsecondary options; and
 - workplace readiness training and instruction in self-advocacy.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) are offered to:
 - Students with disabilities who are potentially eligible for VR services; and
 - Students with disabilities who are determined eligible and receive the services as part of their Individual Plan for Employment (IPE).
- Students under the age of 22 who require vocational rehabilitation services outside the scope of Pre-ETS would need to make an application and be determined eligible.
- Pre-ETS services were added to the ACCES-VR procurement Request for Proposals (RFP) issued in August 2017.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

- **Transition Planning Partnerships with School Districts**
 - Established a Transition and Youth Services (TAYS) Unit which includes dedicated staff assigned to each of the 15 District Offices.
 - The TAYS team is focused on coordination and consistent delivery of student transition and youth services. They lead collaborative efforts with school districts, BOCES, one-stop career centers, community rehabilitation programs, colleges, businesses and independent living centers.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

- Community Employment Specialists
 - ACCES-VR awarded ten contracts statewide to provide consultation and technical assistance to local school districts on post-school options for students with disabilities.
 - The Regional Vocational Rehabilitation Community Employment Specialists connect school district personnel and Committees on Special Education (CSE) to the knowledge, information, and procedures needed to identify post-school employment and training options for students with disabilities.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

- **New Initiatives and Benchmarking Activities**
 - **ACCES-VR IL/VR (Independent Living/Vocational Rehabilitation) Peer Mentoring Initiative** – This is a pilot in the White Plains and Rochester District Offices where peer mentors from the local Independent Living Center are located within the district office to provide peer mentoring and advocacy services.
 - **CUNY LEADS Plus** – An MOU with CUNY is being developed to provide supports to CUNY students on the Autism Spectrum and with other learning disabilities. The project will be implemented on a CUNY campus in each borough.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

New Initiatives and Benchmarking Activities

- **NYC Mayor’s Office for Persons with Disabilities** – This collaborative is designed to create new strategies for business engagement in New York City and will support new practices for recruiting and hiring people with disabilities.
- **Career Exploration Initiative** – This 2018 procurement will result in 15 to 20 projects across the state to provide the WIOA required Pre-Employment Transition Services to students with disabilities who are potentially eligible for ACCES-VR services. Students with disabilities would not need an eligibility determination or completed application to receive Career Exploration services.