

## Terms and Definitions for Future Planning

**Below is a list of terms and definitions you may hear as you begin actively planning for your son or daughter's future.**

**Transition:** to change or move. In middle/high school this usually refers to the movement from school world to the adult world (covers ages 14-21)

**Transition Plan:** a written plan that begins at age 14 that addresses how a student will learn, earn and live once they graduate high school.

**Age Appropriate Assessments:** ongoing process of collecting data based on an individual's preferences, interests, needs and strengths. There should be a direct relationship between the assessments and the student's current and future working, educational, living and social environments.

**Course of Study:** a multiyear description of coursework that is needed to achieve the student's goals after high school.

**Functional Curriculum:** is a set of courses that focus on independent living, vocational (work), communication and social skills.

**Postsecondary:** after high school

**Vocational Assessments:** data collection (skills, strengths, needs) that relates specifically to employment and career goals

**Guardianship:** a court ordered relationship in which a guardian makes decisions and acts on behalf of another (called the ward)

**Daily Living Skills:** self help skills needed to live as independently as possible. These include cooking and household activities, money management, communication, social skills, etc.

**Career Exploration:** term used

**Supported Employment:** job in which a person receives ongoing support services while on the job. usually in a competitive job environment. This support is often provided by a job coach who helps the person learn to do the job.

**Competitive Employment:** means a full-time or part-time job with competitive wages and responsibilities just like everybody else

**Self Determination:** the power or ability to make decisions and plan for one's life

**Age of Majority:** the legal age (18) in Ohio when a student is considered an adult and able to make their own life decisions. On the IEP this is called "transfer of rights" because the student will now assume educational responsibilities the parent once did.