

## Joaquin LEA Transition Services

Secondary Transition or “transition services” as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) is a coordinated set of activities for a student with a disability that:

- Is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student with a disability to facilitate the student’s movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment); continuing adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation;
- Is based on the individual student’s needs, taking into account the student’s strengths, preferences, and interests; and
- Includes instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and, if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation

Joaquin LEA requirements for transition services are aligned to the state and federal requirements included in IDEA 2004. However, local policy requires beginning transition at age 12, effective Sept. 2, 2011. Also, beginning Sept. 1, 2013, Joaquin ISD has made available in electronic format on the school’s website, all LEA, State, and Federal Secondary Transition Guidelines and Agency contacts.

## State Requirements for Secondary Transition Planning in Texas

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The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) defines transition services as a *“coordinated set of activities for a student with a disability that is designed to be within a results-oriented process”*. IDEA 2004 requires that transition services and activities must be included in the development of the IEP no later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP Team. For more information on these requirements, click on **Federal Requirements for Secondary Transition** on the left side menu.

Texas requirements for transition services are aligned to the federal requirements included in IDEA 2004. However, state law and rules include additional requirements for the provision of transition services for students receiving special education services in Texas. A new state law passed in the summer of 2011 requires that *“appropriate state transition planning must begin for a student not later than when the student reaches 14 years of age”* (*SB 1788, 06/17/2011*). The Texas Administrative Code (TAC) describes the following nine issues important to the development of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) for students receiving special education services.

1. Appropriate student involvement in the student's transition to life outside the public school system
2. If the student is younger than 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition
3. If the student is at least 18 years of age, appropriate parental involvement in the student's transition, if the parent is invited to participate by the student or the school district in which the student is enrolled
4. Any postsecondary education options
5. A functional vocational evaluation
6. Employment goals and objectives
7. If the student is at least 18 years of age, the availability of age-appropriate instructional environments
8. Independent living goals and objectives
9. Appropriate circumstances for referring a student or the student's parents to a governmental agency for services

## **Federal Requirements for Secondary Transition Planning**

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### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004)**

The 2004 IDEA reauthorization raised expectations for students with disabilities through increased academic expectations and state and district accountability standards. Additionally, transition was re-defined and the role of transition planning in the development of IEPs was strengthened, including a new requirement for a summary of performance prior to graduation from high school for students receiving special education services.

IDEA 2004 requires that *"all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living."* (§300.1 Purposes)

Transition services are defined as a *"coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability...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."* (§300.43 Transition Services)

**Transition services and activities must be included in the development of the IEP no later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP Team**, and must include appropriate measurable post-secondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and where appropriate, independent living skills.

Transition services and activities (including courses of study) needed to assist the student in reaching post-secondary goals must be based on the individual student's needs, strengths, preferences, and interests and must include instruction, related services, community experiences, employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.

A student with a disability must be invited to attend their IEP meeting whenever postsecondary goals and transition services are considered. Upon reaching the age of majority (age 18 in Texas), the parental rights transfer to the adult student. With the consent of the parent or adult student, a representative of any participating agency that is likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services must also be invited to attend the IEP meeting.

Finally, prior to graduation from secondary school, the student must be provided with a summary of academic achievement and functional performance, including recommendations for assistance the student may need to meet their post-secondary goals.

### **[Excerpts from Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act 2004](#)**

# Texas's Career Clusters



## ***JISD TRANSITION AND AGENCY CONTACT GUIDE***

This contact information has been compiled by the JISD Transition Coordinator to help you in finding the best care, future education and resources for you and your child. Please contact us for any further information at (936)-269-3127, ext. 237, Mrs. Kathy Carrington.

## ***Texas Transition and Employment Guide***

<http://www.transitionintexas.org/Page/143>

### **STATE AGENCIES:**

Texas Health and Human Services (HHSC)  
Medicaid; Food Stamps; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families(TANF);  
Children's Health Insurance; Nursing Home Care and other services for  
people who are elderly or have disabilities.  
[www.hhsc.state.tx.us](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us) and [www.yourtexasbenefits.com/wps/portal](http://www.yourtexasbenefits.com/wps/portal)

### **Dept. of Human Resources**

912 Nacogdoches St.  
Center, TX 75935 (936) 598- 2451

### **Texas Dept. of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

James Abbott, Shelby County Counselor  
3201 S. Medford Dr. Suite 6  
Lufkin, TX 75901  
1-800-687-4569  
(936) 630-3940; [james.abbott@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:james.abbott@dars.state.tx.us)  
[www.dars.state.tx.us](http://www.dars.state.tx.us)

DARS Division for Blind Services  
Robin Reyna, Blind Children's Specialist  
Jennifer Johnson, Transition Counselor  
3201 South Medford Drive, Suite #5  
Lufkin, TX 75901  
(936) 630-3960; 1-800-687-7033

### **Texas School for Blind & Visually Impaired;**

<http://tsbvi.edu/>

### **Department of Aging and Disability (DADS)**

[www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm)  
Personal care- [www.dads.state.tx.us/services/personal care.html](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/personal care.html)  
[www.respite-services.dads.texas.gov](http://www.respite-services.dads.texas.gov)

**Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities ( DBMD)**

1-877-438-5658 (toll free)

DADS intake #1-800-446-8253

**Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)**

[www.dfps.state.tx.us](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us)

**Department of State Health Services (DSHS)**

[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

**Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

[www.dars.state.tx.us](http://www.dars.state.tx.us)

**Shelby County MHMR**

**Sheltered Workshop**

Judy Greer

P.O. Box 113

San Augustine, TX 75972

(936) 275-9645

**Texas Workforce Solutions of East Texas**

1-800-735-2989

Texas Workforce Solutions Shelby County

P.O. Box 1371

Center, TX 75935-3038

Phone: (936) 598-2468; [www.detwork.org](http://www.detwork.org)

Medical Services:

SSI(income)/ Medicaid(health & medications)

[www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/contacts.html](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/contacts.html)

1-800-252-8263

**Social Security Administration**

702 East Denman

Lufkin, TX 75901

1-800-772-1213

**Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)**

1-800-252 8023

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/)

**Children's Health Insurance (CHIP)**

Doesn't qualify under Medicaid but cannot afford private insurance for children.

[www.chipmedicaid.com](http://www.chipmedicaid.com)

Texas Health Steps – 1-877-847-8377

Non-Profit Organizations:  
2-1-1 Texas: to find services in your area  
[www.211texas.org/211/](http://www.211texas.org/211/)

**The ARC of Texas**

[www.thearcoftexas.org](http://www.thearcoftexas.org)  
1-800-252-9729  
Disability Rights Texas: [www.disabilityrightstx.org](http://www.disabilityrightstx.org)  
Texas Parent to Parent  
3710 Cedar Street, Box 12  
Austin, TX 78705  
1-866-896-6001 (toll-free)  
[www.txp2.org](http://www.txp2.org)  
Parent Companion – <http://www.parentcompanion.org>

**Texas Project First**

<http://texasprojectfirst.org/Guardianship.html> & Self-Determination  
Guardianship Alternatives -  
[http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition/webConf\\_materials.asp](http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition/webConf_materials.asp)

**East Texas Center for Independent Living (ETCIL)**

[www.etcil.org](http://www.etcil.org)  
Karen Holt, Outreach Coordinator,  
1-903-581-7542  
[ssperling@etcil.org](mailto:ssperling@etcil.org) – Tyler, TX  
[pperkins@etcil.org](mailto:pperkins@etcil.org) – Longview, TX

**Housing:**

**Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)**

1-877-438-5658 (toll free)  
Breckenridge Village of Tyler (BVT)  
15062 1145  
Tyler, TX 75704  
(903) 596 8100  
[www.breckenridgevillage.com](http://www.breckenridgevillage.com)

**Burke Center – Nacogdoches, TX**

2712 S.E.Stallings Drive  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961  
[info@burke-center.org](mailto:info@burke-center.org)  
(936)639-1479

www.burke-center.org/mentalretardation.htm

**Education:**

**Texas State Technical College**

Marshall, TX  
1-903-923-3207

**Panola College Learning Center**

GED/ESL, Rebecca Burkhalter; 598-9543  
Nursing, Brandy Stamps/Judy Lee; 598-2715  
Cosmetology, Linda Vickery; 598-6135

**Shelby Regional Training Center**

Dr. Joe Shannon  
678 Rough Rider Drive  
Center, TX 75935  
(936) 591-9099/591-9075

**Panola College**

Teresa Washington, Special Populations  
11101 W. Panola  
Carthage, TX 75633  
(903) 693-2000

**Angelina College**

Karen Bowser, Special Populations  
P.O. Box 1768  
Lufkin, TX 75902  
(936) 639-1301/633-5230

**Stephen F. Austin State University**

Tiffany Rivers, MPA  
Director of Disability Services  
(936) 468-3004  
Americans with Disabilities Act Information Line  
1-800-514-0301

**Region 7 Educational Service Center -**

www.esc7.net –  
Department – Special Education –Transition  
Electronically available at JISD school website:  
[www.joaquinisd.net](http://www.joaquinisd.net)

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