

## **IVY STREET TRANSITION TIMELINE**

*Included below is the transition process by age that we use at Ivy as a guide as students continue into adulthood. The goal of this timeline is to provide an overview of tasks/services that we should be thinking of as students and families move through this period of transition. Because every student's transition process is different, this timeline should not be considered an exactly timebound checklist, and there is certainly flexibility within when the various tasks/services can be completed or obtained. Please reach out to the transition department if you have any questions!*

### **Age 14**

- IEP shifts to include transition
  - Develop IEP Transition Planning Form (TPF)
  - Post-secondary vision should be based on student needs, interests, and desired outcomes
  - IEP goals should be derived from Transition Planning Form including student's needs, interests and desired outcomes for adult life
  - Transition assessment could be completed
  - Student participation in IEP meeting should steadily increase from this age moving forward
  - Student / parent provide written consent to invite adult agencies to the IEP meeting if adult agencies are involved (uncommon at this age)

### **Age 15**

- Refine and strengthen student vision
- Revise and update IEP goals based on student successes, challenges

### **Age 16**

- Work-based learning should include opportunities inside and outside of the classroom (in the community)
- IQ testing with adult tests can be completed at 16 and older

### **Age 17**

- Transfer of Parental Rights (one year before student turns 18) should be discussed and addressed: <https://www.newton.k12.ma.us/Page/3149>
  - Local probate court is a resource for guardianship process
  - There are many options for a less restrictive alternative to full guardianship
  - This process should be completed just before the young adult's 18th birthday
- Apply for SSI (this can be earlier if student is in residential or family income is low enough); this makes student eligible for MassHealth (Medicaid): <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/>
  - If the parent is disabled or retired, the young adult can apply for SSDI

- SSDI does NOT make the young adult eligible for MassHealth (SSI does) but they can apply for MassHealth at age 19 if they receive SSDI
- 688 Referral should be sent (at least 2 years before graduation) by the district: <https://www.newton.k12.ma.us/Page/3148>
- Update transition assessment
- Explore signing a FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) if student is going to college. This gives parent permission to communicate with the college. <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

### **Age 18**

- Register your son for the draft; if you do not do so it can affect eligibility for some government benefits: <https://www.sss.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/WhoMustRegisterChart.pdf>
- Begin work on a disability disclosure statement
- 688 process should be complete and eligibility determination complete
  - Adult agency should be invited to all IEPs moving forward
- Connect with case worker at adult agency and plan an initial meeting to begin gathering information about services that you may have access to
- SSI determination should be complete
- MassHealth:
  - If young adult has SSI, he or she will be eligible for MassHealth. You do not need to apply but you may need to call to follow up if you do not receive a MassHealth card within a month of becoming eligible for SSI
  - If your young adult does NOT receive SSI, you can apply for MassHealth when they are 19 at which point eligibility is based on their income
  - <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-masshealth-the-health-safety-net-or-the-childrens-medical-security-plan>
- Guardianship OR transfer of rights to student should be complete
  - <https://www.mass.gov/guardianship-conservatorship-of-incapacitated-persons>
- Apply for section 8 housing voucher
  - There are two lists – the centralized list and lists run by regional non-profits
  - It can take 5-10 years to receive voucher
  - Check in once a year to be sure you are still on the list
- If you decide not to file for guardianship for your young adult (or if only one parent is guardian), your child may be eligible for Adult Family Care which is also called Adult Foster Care (AFC)
  - If your young adult is eligible for AFC, they may eventually become eligible for Group Adult Foster Care at age 22 which funds 1-2 hours a day of services for people living in subsidized housing

**Age 19**

- \*continue any processes from 18
- Apply for MassHealth if young adult does not receive SSI
- Adult service providers should be attending IEP meetings
- Refine and strengthen vision statement
- Update and strengthen Transition Planning Form
- Integrate community-based experiences as they relate to student vision and goals
- Begin conversation with IEP team about planning for community transportation
  - May include TAP pass, The RIDE, Uber, public transportation, driving, etc.

**Age 20**

- \*continue any processes from 18
- Refine and strengthen vision statement
- Adult service providers should be attending IEP meetings
- Update and strengthen Transition Planning Form
- Continue to integrate community-based experiences as they related to student vision and goals

**Age 21**

- \*continue any processes from 18
- Refine and strengthen vision statement
- Update and strengthen Transition Planning Form
- Adult service providers should be attending IEP meetings
- Work with DDS, DMH, and/or MRC (if involved) case workers to explore options for adult services at 22
  - Visit potential programs
- Connect with an outside therapist, psychiatrist/prescriber, and medical providers as needed