

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Transition Stakeholders

FROM: Bambi J. Lockman, Chief
Bureau of Exceptional Education
and Student Services

Bill Palmer, Director
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

DATE: February 7, 2006

SUBJECT: *Checklist for Students with Disabilities Transitioning to Adult Life*

Contact Information:

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School district exceptional student education (ESE) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) personnel throughout Florida are working in collaboration to assist students with disabilities to reach the highest level of student achievement and successfully transition to adult life. Our mutual objective is to improve the post-school outcomes of students with disabilities. This begins with knowledgeable staff sharing information with students, parents, and others involved in the transition process.

One of the important steps in the transition process is for students to think about their future beyond high school and take an active role in transition planning. It is also important for students and their families to become aware of agencies and the services that they provide to individuals with disabilities. At the state and local levels, the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) are working together to reach out to students and their families. However, we need your assistance in order to strengthen this important communication.

In an effort to increase student awareness about the importance of taking an active role in their transition planning, a transition checklist brochure was developed collaboratively by DVR and BEESS that may help students address their transition needs as they prepare for life after high school. Copies of the

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Checklist for Students with Disabilities Transitioning to Adult Life brochures are available by contacting Susan Lombardi, DVR Communications Office, by phone at (850) 245-3323 or by electronic mail at susan.lombardi@vr.fldoe.org.

If you have any questions about the role of DVR in transition services for students with disabilities or need additional information, please contact Donni Sorrell, DVR Program Administrator/Transition Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, by phone at (850) 245-3360 or by electronic mail at donni.sorrell@vr.fldoe.org.

If you need additional information or assistance regarding ESE and transition planning through the individual educational plan (IEP) process, please contact Janet Adams, Program Specialist, Transition, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, by phone at (850) 245-0478 or by electronic mail at janet.adams@fldoe.org.

BJL/BP/jam