



A UNIVERSE OF OPPORTUNITIES



CONNECTICUT
Education

2024-2025

CSDE Update: Public Act 23-137 Secondary Transition Requirements

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Bureau of Special Education Mission



- Engage in collaborative efforts to ensure students with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) to prepare them for college or training, employment, independent living and community participation.
- Provide leadership, guidance, support and resources to assist educators in meeting state and federal special education requirements in an effort to improve educational outcomes for students with exceptionalities.



BSE's Back to School Meeting



The BSE's 21st Annual Back to School Meeting: BELONGING



Check out the [Resources](#) tab for BSE information and resources, including Secondary Transition!



Learning Targets

- Provide updates regarding requirements pursuant to [PA 23-137](#), related to Secondary Transition.
 - 1) Extends IDEA Eligibility
 - 2) District Transition Coordinators
 - 3) Training Programs
 - 4) Transition Resources and Transition Services
 - 5) Public Transition Programs



1. Extends IDEA Eligibility

Effective July 1, 2023, all students remain eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) through the end of the school year during which the student turns age 22, or until the student graduates from high school with a regular high school diploma, **whichever occurs first.** [Connecticut General Statute (CGS) § 10-76d(b)]

Pursuant to the [CGS § 10-259](#), school year is defined as July 1 through June 30.

Please refer to the [CSDE Memorandum \(July 14, 2023\)](#) and the [CSDE Memorandum \(November 16, 2023\)](#) for more information.



Transition Bill of Rights



10. Request consideration for receiving transition-only services (for students with disabilities who have completed all academic requirements for graduation) if all transition goals and objectives have not been met during their previous year in high school. The PPT makes the recommendation for transition-only services, which must be reviewed at least annually.

PPT Considerations When Determining the Need for Transition-Only Services for a Student:

- a. Transition-only services may be discussed at the first PPT meeting when a student reaches the age of 14 but not later than the PPT meeting that occurs approximately two years prior to a student's anticipated exit from school.
- b. Transition-only services must be a coordinated set of individualized activities but do not need to be a specialized "program".
- c. Transition-only services should be based in the local community to the greatest extent possible in order to prepare students for life after high school.
- d. Transition-only services should provide students with the opportunity to maximize their time with nondisabled peers.
- e. Transition-only services are not required for graduation but may include academic, vocational, and independent living activities that will help students meet their postsecondary goals.
- f. Students are entitled to participate in graduation exercises and related activities upon completion of academic requirements or at the conclusion of transition-only services. This decision is made by the PPT.
- g. If students participate in transition-only services, the date on their diploma will be the date that they exit high school due to graduating with a regular high school diploma. A parent/adult student may request that the date on the student's diploma be backdated to reflect the date that the student fulfilled academic requirements to graduate. This request should be made to the school district just prior to the student's exit from special education.



Transition Bill of Rights for Parents of Students Receiving Special Education Services



2. District Transition Coordinator

Not later than **January 1, 2024**, each local and regional board of education shall ensure that a transition coordinator has been designated.

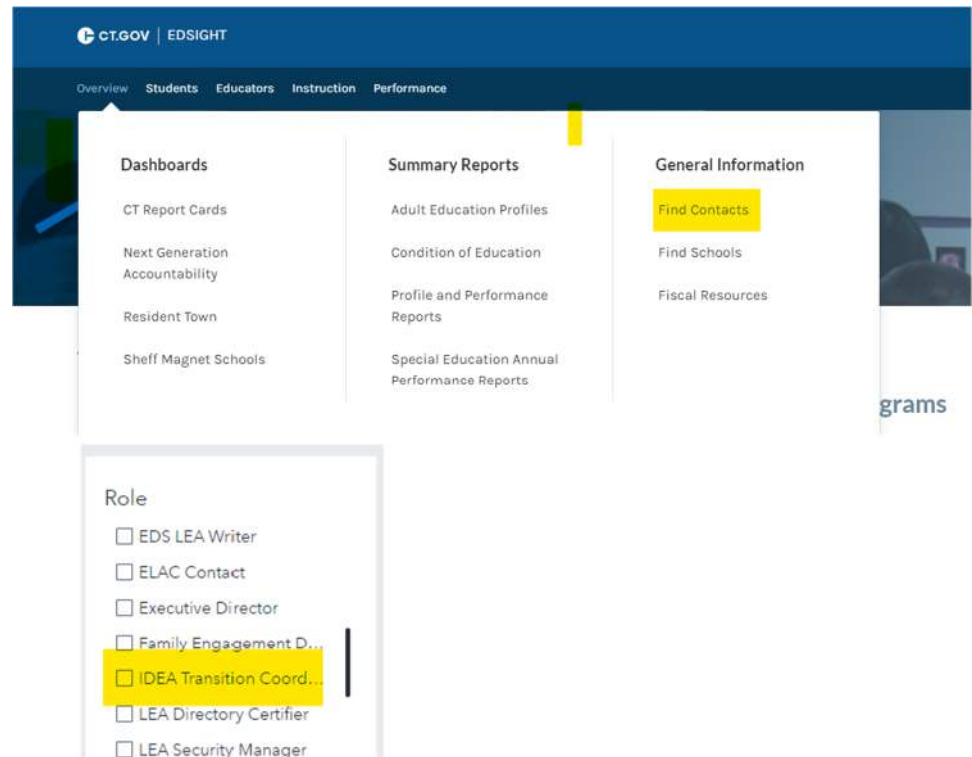
"Transition coordinator" means a **director of pupil personnel or designee** (other person employed by a local or regional board of education, as designated by such director), who assists parents and students in the school district governed by such board navigate the transition resources, transition services and public transition programs (PTPs) available for such students.

Identification of Transition Coordinator

Districts must enter their “IDEA Transition Coordinator Primary Contact” within the **Contacts Manager application**. (“IDEA Transition Coordinator Secondary Contact” is optional.)

These contacts are listed on [EdSight](#).

1. Hover on the “Overview” tab; select “Find Contacts”.
2. Under the “Role” heading, search “IDEA Transition Coordinator”.



The screenshot displays the EdSight application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'Overview' tab selected. Below the navigation bar, there are three main sections: 'Dashboards', 'Summary Reports', and 'General Information'. In the 'General Information' section, the 'Find Contacts' button is highlighted in yellow. Below this, a dropdown menu is open, showing a list of roles under the heading 'Role'. The role 'IDEA Transition Coordinator' is highlighted in yellow.

Role
<input type="checkbox"/> EDS LEA Writer
<input type="checkbox"/> ELAC Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement D...
<input type="checkbox"/> IDEA Transition Coord...
<input type="checkbox"/> LEA Directory Certifier
<input type="checkbox"/> LEA Security Manager



3. Training Programs

- **Statewide Secondary Transition Overview Course:** An online course for educators and school staff who do not provide transition services to inform such educators and staff about transition services and programs, including, but not limited to, about the purpose, essential programming, and deadlines of such programs.
- **Statewide Special Education Training Program:** A training program concerning the legal requirements and best practice recommendations for special education and transition services.



CT IEP Quality On Demand Modules



CT IEP Quality on demand trainings, including the module on Secondary Transition, will be updated and posted on the CSDE website.



Transition Training Programs - 1

Pursuant to CGS Sec. 10-74r, the deadline for applicable staff to complete the transition training program begins once the "training program commences". We anticipate the training programs will be available on **January 1, 2025**. Once the transition training program commences:

- **Transition coordinators** shall complete the training program:
 - Within 3 years, if appointed prior to the date upon which the training program commences, or
 - Within 1 year, if appointed after such date.
- **Educators** and **school paraprofessionals**, providing services to transition-age SWDs, shall completed the training program:
 - Within 5 years, if hired prior to the date upon which the training program commences, or
 - Within 1 year, if hired after such date.



Transition Training Programs - 2

Transition Coordinators

- Offered in-person and virtually
- Up to 2 days

Educators

- Online module
- Up to 2 days

School Paraprofessionals

- Online module
- Up to 2 hours (will count towards the 18 hours of required paraeducator training, pursuant to [CGS § 10-148d](#))



4. Transition Resources and Transition Services

- **Best Practices for the Provision of Transition Services** (based on the National Technical Assistance Center for Transition: the Collaborative's (NTACT:C's): *Predictors of Post School Success and Taxonomy of Transition Programming 2.0*).
- **Online Listing of Transition Resources, Transition Services, and PTPs**
- **Plain-Language Online Resource of Decision-Making Options** (developed in consultation with disability rights advocacy groups)



Online Listing of Transition Resources, Transition Services, and PTPs - 1

- [Easing into Secondary Transition: A Comprehensive Guide to Resources and Services in Connecticut](#)
 - [Contact Section](#)
 - [Resources and Services Section](#)
- [EdSight](#) maintains a listing of Transition Programs, which includes PTPs and Transition/Vocational Service Providers (TVSPs).



Online Listing of Transition Resources, Transition Services, and PTPs - 2



For the school year commencing **July 1, 2024**, and each school year thereafter, Districts shall distribute the CSDE notice concerning the online listing of transition resources and services, and PTPs to parents of students requiring special education in grades six to twelve at a PPT meeting.



Information about PTPs and Adult Service Programs



Information about PTPs

All LEAs and RESCs operating PTPs will need to develop, if not created already, a plain language informational handout about their PTP, post it to the district/program webpage, and update Directory Manager (DM) to link to the resource.

Information about Adult Service Programs

The CSDE Statewide Transition Coordinator will work with state agency liaisons to develop, if not created already, a plain language informational handout of their program(s), which includes a description of the program(s), eligibility requirements for the program(s), and deadlines and instructions for applications for the program(s).



Information about PTPs and Adult Service Programs at PPT Meetings - 1

At the first PPT meeting after a student turns age 14 and has a statement of transition service needs included in the IEP, the PPT shall for each PTP and each program for adults for which the student may be eligible after graduation: (1) **upon approval of the parent or guardian, notify the state agency that provides such program about the potential eligibility of the student;** and (2) **provide the parent or guardian a listing of the programs** that includes, but is not limited, to a plain language description of the program, eligibility requirements for the program, and deadlines and instructions for applications for the programs.



Information about PTPs and Adult Service Programs at PPT Meetings -2

Not later than the PPT meeting that occurs approximately two years prior to the child's anticipated graduation from high school or the end of the school year in which a child will reach age twenty-two, whichever is expected to occur first: (1) upon approval of the parent or guardian, notify any state agency that provides a program for adults for which such child may be eligible about the potential eligibility of such child, invite a representative from each such agency to attend the PPT meeting, and permit and facilitate contact and coordination between each such agency and the parent or guardian for the purpose of easing the process for the transfer of services; (2) provide the parent or guardian with a listing of each program for adults for which such child may be eligible that includes, but is not limited to, a plain language description of such program, eligibility requirements for such program, and deadlines and instructions for applications to such programs; and (3) assist the parent or guardian in completing an application to any such program.



Information about Decision Making Options at PPT Meetings

At the first PPT meeting when a child turns the age 14, and annually thereafter, each responsible local or regional board of education shall provide information to the child and the parent or guardian about the **full range of decision-making supports, including alternatives to guardianship and conservatorship, and the decision-making options online resource developed by the CSDE.**



5. Public Transition Programs (PTPs)

The CSDE shall

- Establish **minimum standards** for PTPs and metrics for measuring such standards;
- Perform **announced site visits** of PTPs to determine the effectiveness of and suggesting improvements to such programs; and
- **Post data** on the CSDE website related to how such PTPs measured against the minimum standards established.



PTP Site Visits

Each PTP will be monitored once every six (6) years; new PTPs will be monitored the first year of operation.

The PTP site visit protocol will take place over the course of three days:

- Day 1 (pre-site visit)
- Day 2 (site visit)
- Day 3 (post-site visit)



PTP Informational Survey



The CSDE will utilize a **PTP Informational Survey** to examining aspects of each PTP operated by LEAs and RESCs, including, but not limited to, the types of transition services provided in such PTP, the number and qualification of the staff providing such transition services, and the location of such PTP.



Transition Symposium



SAVE THE DATE: March 25, 2025

CT 10th Annual Secondary Transition Symposium
“Empowering Pathways:
Navigating Adulthood with Confidence”