Transition Checklist: Preparing for the transition out of high school

Students can program at Southside until the day before they turn 22.

______ Register with Community Service Options (CSO) for the P.U.N.S. (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services). This is the state database of individuals with developmental disabilities. You must register your child in order to receive any funding from the state for adult day or residential services. There is a long waiting list. Register ASAP if you have not done so. CSO will be at Southside for Fall and Spring Report Card Pickup. In order to stay on P.U.N.S. you should updated yearly AND when you move or change phone numbers. You may contact CSO and request an intake by calling: 773-471-4700.

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=85196

______ Storing essential documents. It is essential to keep IEPs and a psychological (at least one) documenting a disability before the age of 18. Electronic files will only stay in the system for a couple of years after the student ages out. Some public agencies/facilities require to see the disability present and documented before the age of 18. If you do not have a copy, check with the case manager to see if they can provide a copy to you before leaving Southside.

______ Adult day program/ Agency Tours. These are agencies that provide adult day services to individuals with special needs for after your child reaches their age out date, and exits the school system. The counselor’s office will invite parents to attend tours of various adult service programs. Please take advantage of this great opportunity by attending the tours that interest you. If you are unable to attend the tour, it is recommended that you keep a file of the facilities, as you may wish to review them at a later time, or call the facility to schedule an individual tour. A list of community day program providers in Illinois is included in the link below:

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=57221

______ Investigate Guardianship & Alternatives. Regardless of your young adult’s disability, once your child turns 18, the law presumes that the child possesses the capacity to make any and all decisions regarding their person and their finances. www.gac.state.il.us

Ask the counseling department on information for how to file for guardianship.

______ Obtain Illinois State Identification Card. We encourage all students to have a Illinois state state ID.. Cards can be obtained through the Secretary of State's Driver’s License Facilities. I.D. cards need to be renewed every 5 years (website has form to download under publications tab). Documents needed to obtain a state I.D. include 1. Birth Certificate (original or certified copy) 2. Social Security Card (original) 3. Proof of Residence (letter postmarked within 60 days of application) 4. Application for “Disabled Person I.D. card” requires a form to be filled out by a doctor. Disabled Person I.D. card is free. Regular State I.D.s cost $20. Teachers will communicate if Southside will be a State ID site.

http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/

______ SSI (Supplemental Security Income) Benefits. Individuals with disabilities are often eligible with social security benefits, based off state requirements. To see if your child can become eligible,
have social security number at hand and call (800)772-1213 to begin the application process. They will send you forms to complete and schedule a personal interview. You may also start the application process online.

https://www.ssa.gov/agency/contact/phone.html

________Medicaid Benefits. If you receive SSI benefits, you are eligible for Medicaid, but you must complete a separate application. Call the Children and Family Benefits Unit hotline at: 773-553-KIDS (5437). They will take your information and call you back with a location you can go to, within three days, where they can answer your questions and help you apply.

________Apply for ADA Paratransit Services. PACE and RTA are two programs students may be eligible for. The counselor’s office can provide information to help you along the application process. The school can assist in filling the application for RTA in the Fall and Spring report card pick up days.

RTA online application can be accessed with this link:
https://www2.illinois.gov/aging/BenefitsAccess/Pages/default.aspx

PACE application can be requested and sent to you by calling :312-663-4357. There is a interview and decision period. The counselor’s office can provide pamphlets if you need.

________Employment. The Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation services may provide assistance for people with disabilities looking for jobs and living independently. A DRS worker may become involved in your son or daughter’s case as they get closer to leaving the educational system. Some students are already Certified by DRS and may have a rehab plan. This is based on meeting with the DRS case worker and meeting the eligibility criteria set by DRS. Use the online Rehabilitation Services Web Referral to referral link:

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29736

Reach out to your local DRS office: Ford City DRS Office : Rehabilitation Services
7600 South Pulaski Road
Chicago, IL 60652
Phone: (773) 838-5745

________Explore Special Recreation. Chicago Park District has special recreation programs that can be accessed now and after your young adult ages out. Some programs include sports and social groups. Most special recreation associations offer adult day programs for a small fee.

For general questions, comments and inquiries, please call our general Special Recreation phone line at (312) 742-5798

https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/programs-memberships/special-recreation-locations-and-contacts
Mid-South American Job Center

**Address:** Martin Luther King Human Service Center, Chicago, IL 60653

**Phone:** 773-538-5627

**TTY/TDD:** 800-526-0844

**Hours:**

Open today 8:30 AM-5:00 PM

**Website:** Visit website

**This Location Serves:**

- Immigrants
- Individual with a Disability
- Laid Off Worker
- Mature Worker
- Re-Entry/Ex-Offender
- Veteran
- Youth (Ages 18-24)

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