



Ages 15 – 18

Family Guide For Vocational Training

At ages 15-18, there are many changes that occur and much that has to happen to prepare for adulthood. Transition services for this age group should be customized to your child's interest, preferences, and priorities. During these years, you and your child will also learn more about rights and responsibilities, health care benefits, social security benefits, and options to consider that will impact your decisions.

15 – 18	Themes	Examples
Explore jobs & careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spend time in a variety of vocational settings Explore possible continued education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work experience might be with school and/or outside of school hours. After-school activities, part-time jobs, school-based enterprises. Whether looking at supported employment or self employment, continued education is an option for honing job skills and for self-enrichment.
Understand preferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matching preferences and strengths to future vocations Considering barriers and opportunities for access to favored job settings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and use online and other resources, follow up from discussions at school regarding future plans. Note access to transportation, access to accommodations, access to people who can assist with potential work-related challenges.
Improve work skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase familiarity with work-related concepts Interview skills Increase self-determination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about and observe work place environments and expectations (e.g., what people wear, how they take breaks, how they greet and talk to each other). Cleaning up area and putting materials away. Work on mock application/interviews. Provide ample opportunities for making decisions regarding daily activities. Discuss concept of social reciprocity, support of friends and significant others.
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Discovery (e.g., person-centered planning) to determine preferences and needed supports. Discussion about eligibility for adult housing services and/or supported employment. 	

