

Transition Fact Sheet

- **MYTH:** My child is on an IEP, so he/she automatically qualifies for services through the Ashtabula County Board of DD (ACBDD).
- **FACT:** *To be eligible for ACBDD, a child needs to complete a COEDI at age 6 for services until age 16 and an OEDI at age 16 for services from age 16 and older. Once eligible, it is necessary to complete a wait list assessment 12 months prior to a need. Often, graduation from high school creates a new need.*
- **MYTH:** My child is not appropriate for employment in the community, so the IEP team does not need to complete a transition plan.
- **FACT:** *It is imperative that the IEP team address employment, independent living, and education/training in the transition plan of the IEP each year starting at age 14. Transition assessments will help to determine Preferences, Interests, Needs, and Strengths related to all three of those areas. Appropriate transition activities should be implemented by team members for each of the areas each year.*
- **MYTH:** My child has been participating in a vocational program so will be ready for competitive employment at the time of graduation.
- **FACT:** *All students are presumed to be competitively employable. Many factors come into play to determine if a student is ready for competitive employment. On the path to employment, students range from those who do not understand the concept of work to those that are ready to hold a competitive job. It is important to include outside agencies such as ACBDD, if eligible, and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) in transition, as well as, completing Age Appropriate Transition Assessments (AATA). Following graduation, it may be necessary to continue working on vocational skills in a supported setting prior to obtaining a job.*
- **MYTH:** Employment is considered to be the only benchmark for a successful transition from high school.
- **FACT:** *The transition plan should equally address independent living, education/training, and employment. Different students will require a variety of different activities in these three areas depending on their needs and their long-term goal. Success will look different for each graduate.*
- **MYTH:** There are limited options for my son or daughter when they are finished with school.
- **FACT:** *There are a variety of options for students when they are finished with school. The IEP team, along with staff from sup-orting agencies, is able to review these options so that you are best prepared for the transition. Options include, but are certainly not limited to, Adult Day Services, Vocational Habilitation, Employment Services, and Transportation.*
- **MYTH:** My child will only be able to access what he/she needs if a waiver is obtained through the ACBDD.
- **FACT:** *There are various community supports and the initial focus will be consideration of those community resources to meet the needs of the student. Waiver services may be a consideration if the needs cannot be met through community re-sources. The IEP team and supporting agencies are able to review these options.*