PREPARING FOR THE IEP MEETING: FOR RELATED SERVICES

As a physical, speech, occupational, or behavior therapist you have valuable perspectives and insights to offer when discussing transition topics during IEP meetings. This planning sheet will help you know what to expect and how you can contribute.

What Should I Know About a Transition IEP Meeting?

- Beginning with the first IEP to be in effect after the student turns 14, IEPs and meetings will begin to focus on the student's goals for after high school in education/training, employment, and independent living.
- IEP team members include the student, his/her parents or guardians, their special education teacher, general education teachers, guidance counselor, and representatives from adult disability service agencies. You can be an integral team member. The student can invite anyone important to them who can provide relevant information related to post-school goals.
- Members of the team will vary depending on the individual student's needs.
- The team will identify goals and services that will help the student achieve those outcomes, and keep track of the student's progress on those goals.
- Each team member will have individual responsibilities and things they can do to contribute.

How Can I Help?

- Be prepared to discuss what you have been working on with the student, and progress he or she made over the past year.
- Discuss the student's levels of performance with regards to your particular service and curriculum (for example, a speech therapist might discuss her communication goals for this student).
- Depending on your area of expertise, advocate for supports that you can provide or see a need for (for example, a behavior therapist may have ideas for behavioral supports in a job site or an occupational therapist might have recommendations for skills instruction related to the workplace).
- Ask the teacher how you can incorporate the student's transition goals into your work with the student.
- Help collect transition assessment data relevant to the student's post-school goals.