

Southwest Ohio Transition Checklist (17-21)

Parents of children and young adults with developmental disabilities: This checklist was made to help prepare and assist you as your child transitions to adulthood. Please reach out to your care team with any questions. We are here to help you through this process.



Age 17-18

Transitioning to Adulthood

- Obtain a Medical Expert Evaluation within 90 days of applying for guardianship, if applying. This may also require Neuropsychological testing. Your child's health care provider will discuss this with you if it is needed. This information can be used to help:
 - Plan for education and job options.
 - Determine what level (if any) of support will be needed when your child turns 18 years (Power of Attorney, Supported Decision Making, or Guardianship).
- Check to see what your State requires for Power of Attorney.
 - In Ohio, forms for Durable Power of Attorney for healthcare, education, finances, and a living will must be notarized on or right after the 18th birthday to be able to act on their behalf.
- Obtain legal guardianship forms through your county probate court website or in person if you will be your child's legal guardian. This is done when the child is not able to make their own decisions.
 - Your probate court may be able to help you fill out the forms or you may call a lawyer.
- Check to see if your child is able to receive Social Security benefits at age 18.
 - Cincinnati Children's Financial Advocates can help you apply for SSI. Contact them before or on their 18th birthday.
 - Identify financial management needs and secure payee status for support if needed.
- If you decided to have your child wait to accept their high school diploma until age 22, review their IEP plan for transition and obtain a strengths assessment (school or county) to help them reach their highest potential.

Southwest Ohio Transition Checklist *continued...*

Age 18-19

Navigating Young Adulthood

- You will lose access to MyChart when your child turns 18. Provide proof of legal guardianship to the Health Information Management (HIM) or the adult proxy form signed by your child to allow access to MyChart.
- If you get a Power of Attorney, have this form notarized and submit it to HIM. You must also submit this to the school if the young adult is a student.
- Apply for Social Security (SSI)/ Bureau of Medical Handicaps (BCMh) and Medicaid for your child.
 - If your child has more than \$2000.00 in assets, they will not be able to get SSI.
 - If your child has assets over \$2000.00 in assets, think about opening a STABLE account.
- Complete guardianship steps if your child is not able to make their own decisions. This can be done through the county probate court.
 - Forms can be found on your county probate court website.
 - A Medical Expert Evaluation must be done within 90 days of filing by your child's doctor or neuropsychologist. Make sure to schedule an appointment to complete these forms.
 - There are sections of the form that must have a notarized signature. Check with your county Probate Court to see if they have a notary on staff.
 - Court staff will review and assist with questions and filling out the forms.
 - A home visit with a court appointed evaluator will be scheduled.
 - There is required education the guardian of the young adult must complete before the court hearing.
- Once guardianship is obtained, turn in the papers to your child's doctor, clinic, hospital, school and county DD services. Make sure to carry the papers with you at all times.
- Complete required information for SSI direct deposits. You will need a representative payee account in the name of the young adult and person who will manage the money. Paper checks are no longer an option.
- Use ABLE account for money management and saving.
- Use vocational rehabilitation services through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) if needed.
- Use your county Developmental Disability (DD) services for community access needs. This includes needs such as: transportation, adult day programs, respite, in home nursing, and home health aide support.
- Begin planning for transition of health care to adult health care providers.
- Attend programs to learn about transition.

Southwest Ohio Transition Checklist *continued...*

Age 19-21

Transition to Adult Resources and Medical Care

- Know how to manage the SSI records and how to report monthly wages, if your child is able to work and you are the guardian or payee.
- Explore assistive technology supports to help with their independence. Talk to Occupational, Speech, and Vocational Therapists for help.
- Transition to the adult DD services system. Explore resources with your Service Support Administrator (SSA).
- Continue to access resources to increase your child's access in the community.
- Help them get a job that meets their skill level and pays a competitive wage, if they are able to work. Help them obtain job coaching if needed.
- Consider respite care, a group home, supported housing, or long term care options that meet their needs.
- Complete transition to adult health care by age 22 when possible.

Education Resources

- Transition Boot Camp (<https://www.ucucedd.org>)
- Opportunity for Ohioans with Disabilities (<https://www.ood.ohio.gov/>)
- Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services (<http://hamiltondds.org/>)
- Clermont County Developmental Disabilities Services (<http://clermontdd.org/>)