



Transitioning Your Special Learner to Life Beyond High School

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Introduction

Possibilities

- (1) Not Destined for the Workforce
- (2) Entrepreneurs, Family-owned & Operated Businesses, & General Employment
- (3) Apprenticeships
- (4) College Bound

Timeline

- (1) Before High School
 - a. Knowing the Child's Neurodiversity
 - b. Exploration of Interests, & Passions
 - c. Exposure to "A Day in the Life of..." Via On-line Resources
 - d. Make a 4-year High School Plan
- (2) Freshman & Sophomore Years
 - a. Personality Tests
 - b. College Prep Tests with/without Accommodations
 - c. Work Part-time General Employment
- (3) Summers
 - a. Bridge Programs
 - b. "Living Experiences"
 - c. Job Shadow
 - d. Find Mentor in Area of Career Interest
- (4) Junior & Senior Years
 - a. College Visits (Including to Disability Services Office)
 - b. Tweak the 4-year High School Plan According to Career Plan
 - c. Apprenticeships/Vocational Experiences
- (5) After Graduation
 - a. Allow Student to Function 'Independently' for the Last Summer
 - b. Plan Thoughtfully a Gap Year

Goals

- Focused Goals

- a. Awareness of Neurodiversity
- b. Acceptance of Neurodiversity
- c. Finding Goodness in the Diversity and/or Disabilities
- d. Pursuit of Passions
- e. Exploring What Drives Them
- f. Discovering What Their Dreams are Made of

Growth

- (1) Independence
- (2) Self-Advocacy
- (3) Self-Determination
- (4) Resilience
 - Change Your Mindset!
- (5) Daily Living Skills

Moving Forward

- (1) How We Get There
 - a. Academics
 - b. College Prep Test, Admissions, and Accommodations
 - c. Daily Living Skills
- (2) Launching Your Special Learner
 - Planning → Practice → Connect → Select → Launch

Summary

Resource List

| Parent book | Student and Parent Book | Website | Organization | Organization |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <p><i>7 Steps to College Success: A Pathway for Students with Disabilities</i> by Elizabeth C. Hamblet</p> | <p><i>Taking Flight: The Guide to Collee for Diverse Learners and Non-Traditional Students</i> by Perry LaRoque, PhD.</p> | <p>LDAdvisory.com Provides advice, presentations, family resources and a helpful blog</p> <p>Understood.org Provides connections for resources, expertise and communities</p> <p>SPEDHomeschool.com Provides resources, blog and vlog, webinars, and community</p> | <p>Massachusetts Homeschool Organization of Parent Educators</p> <p>MassHOPE.org</p> | <p>Home School Legal Defense Association HSLDA.org Provides blog articles and consultations specific for families with special learners.</p> |