



What is a Transition Class?

A transition class is one that is devoted to helping a student achieve post schools goals, focuses on the student's transition plan for its curriculum, and can be as diverse as the needs of its students.

What is Transition? IDEA 2004 definition:

The term "transition services" means a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that-

A) is designed to be **within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's** movement from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational **education**, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation;

B) is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the **child's strengths**, preferences, and interests;

C) includes instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and **when** appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation.

Course Code for a Transition Class: According to Commissioner's Memo LS-14-028, (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0A11USPzJD0T-dGxUMGhHdEJta05RWXJpQ19uOWJld0E&usp=sharing#gid=0>) the new course code to be used only for Transition Classes is 97-1560. Such classes are developed to provide correlation of the class components with the needs identified in the transition plan of each student of the class. Components will include provision of transition assessments, exploration and preparation for employment and post-secondary education options, independent living skills (including self-determination), resources assistance, transition, or learning strategies and are designed to fulfill activities as they relate to post-secondary goals in the transition plan of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) or in the Course of Study (Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) IEP Forms 400-402.

Arkansas Transition Services provides training and technical assistance in developing transition classes that includes useful tools and materials to help your class be as successful as it can be. Check our calendar to see when the next training will be held!

Mission of a Transition Class:

To provide students with disabilities with the skills to help meet their post school goals on their transition plan.

Transition Class Overview:

- Philosophy
 - Built around students' Transition IEP.
 - Based on the premise that youth with disabilities sometimes need simple extra supports that can significantly affect their ability to transition successfully
- Philosophy extends to include the following five important features of the curriculum of the transitions class.
 - Assessments
 - Life Skills Curriculum
 - Work experience
 - Self Determination
 - Agency Linkage

Transition Class Teacher Roles and Responsibilities

- Administering age appropriate assessments.
- Developing a meaningful transition plan from the data interpreted from those assessments and in conjunction with the student.
- Assist students in designing a set of services that will meet the student's unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment and independent living
- Become knowledgeable of various assessments.
- Determine appropriate activities for deficit areas and to help reach post-secondary goals.
- Become knowledgeable of various life skills curriculum.
- Become knowledgeable of various agencies and their services.
- Become knowledgeable of area post-secondary schools.
- Learn the workings of a structured work program.

Benefits of Transition Class:

- Provides time and opportunity to teach skills needed for post school success.
- Students have opportunity to develop meaningful goals.
- Research has shown that these opportunities reduce drop outs and behavior problems.
- Provides relevance for students.
- Improved parent participation
 - Parent orientation nights
 - Parent involvement in Transition Teams
 - IEP meetings-Student Led IEPs
 - Parent approval and cooperation in work programs
- Improved connections with outside agencies
 - Transition Fairs
 - Transition Teams
- Increased participation of community/employers in school activities
- Promotes achievement of State targets set for Indicators 1, 2, 13, &14.