

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and the Bureau of Special Education (BSE) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

What is secondary transition?

For high school age students with disabilities:

- a bridge between a school program and the opportunities of adult life;
- involves partnerships between student, family, school and the community;
- builds on strengths, interests and preferences; and addresses needs; and
- identifies services and supports needed to reach post-secondary goals of education/training, employment and community engagement



When does this occur?

14 Years of Age

Transition services must be addressed in the IEP of the student in the year in which the student turns 14 years of age and then annually each year after, or when requested by the student/family.

The IEP team does not have to wait until the student's approaching 14th birthday year to consider the student's transition needs.



Local Education Agency

(LEA = the school)

The LEA is responsible to support the transition planning as part of the IEP process that helps the student identify and achieve post-secondary goals through:

- Assessment and Planning
- Annual goal and post-secondary goal setting
- Coordinated classes, activities and referral to community agencies

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)



OVR is responsible to support the transition planning as part of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) for potentially eligible students who may need these services and other VR transition services for eligible students. Pre-ETS may include:

- instruction in self-advocacy
- counseling on enrollment in post-secondary educational/training programs
- job exploration
- workplace readiness training
- work-based learning

What are the important parts of the BSE/OVR MOU for youth and families?

This MOU (a legal agreement between two or more organizations) clarifies that:

- OVR and BSE support the transition of students with disabilities from high school to post-school employment-related activities and competitive, integrated employment
- OVR and BSE provide informational training and resources for youth and families
- OVR and BSE roles and responsibilities are clearly defined
- A nonbinding agreement that sets forth a cooperative arrangement between the agencies



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Tom Wolf, Governor

