

Connecting School And Adult Life

A student may not have more than \$2,000 in assets and resources in his/her own name when applying for government benefits such as SSI and Medical Assistance.

Families should begin financial planning when the student turns 13 years old.

Social Security and Medical Assistance can look back at a student's financial records for 5 years.

It is critical that families make sure that a student meets the financial eligibility requirements for government benefits.

My transition facilitator/case manager is:

Phone Number:

Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy Job Training
Behavioral Management
Physical Therapy
Community-Based Instruction
Special Education Services, Etc.

This is what your child is entitled to from birth to age 21



This is what your child is entitled to after age 21



**Baltimore County
Commission on Disabilities**

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105 W. Chesapeake Avenue
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410-887-3580

Please feel free to copy and distribute this brochure so that others may benefit from the information it contains.

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Commission on Disabilities - September 2016*

Baltimore County
Commission on Disabilities

Connecting School and Adult Life



**Guidance for
youth with developmental disabilities,
families, and
the professionals who support them**

**A Guide to Transitioning
From School to Adult Life**

Connecting School and Adult Life

~ Apply to the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) by age 14.

Ask your child's IEP chairperson for an application, call DDA (410-234-8200) or download an application (<http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov>). Keep a copy of the application for your files and send the original along with documentation of disability to DDA. The date the application is received could be critical in determining whether your child is eligible for services in the future.

~ Apply to Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS).

DORS can assist individuals in reaching vocational goals (410-321-2394, www.dors.state.md.us/DORS) Ask about pre-employment training services.

~ Apply for a housing voucher when the young adult turns 18.

The waiting list is years long so it is important to apply early (410-853-3000, www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/social_services/housingassistance/dsssec8.htm).

~ Get information about Low Intensity Support Services.

This is money from DDA that can be used for camp tuition, home modifications and other expenses related to your child's disability. Call DDA (410-234-8200, <http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov>).

~ Attend parent workshops sponsored by the BCPS Parent Resource Center.

Call 410-887-5443 for information

~ Apply for a MD state ID card from the

Motor Vehicle Administration (1-800-950-1682, www.mva.maryland.gov/Driver-Services/Apply/id.htm) when the student turns 16.

~ Plan for your child's legal and financial future now.

Contact the MD Developmental Disabilities Council for a copy of "Planning Now" (410-767-3670, www.md-council.org).

~ Get information about respite care so

that you can get a break from the demands of parenting. Call Respite Care Services at the Arc Baltimore (410-296-2272, www.thearcbaltimore.org).

~ Subscribe to "Leisure Resources," the

newsletter of the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, Office of Therapeutic Services (410-887-5370, www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/recreation/programdivision/therapeutic/index.html).

~ Help your son to register with the

Selective Service System when he turns 18. This can be done at the local post office or online at www.sss.gov.

~ Register to vote! You can register online

(www.elections.state.md.us) or call 1-800-222-8683.

~ Ensure continuity of medical care by

planning for the young adult's transfer from the pediatric to the adult medical system.

~ **Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** when your child turns 18. At age 18 the young adult will be evaluated on his/her own income and assets, not the family's. More information is available at 1-800-772-1213 and www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi

~ **Apply for all available MD Transportation Authority (MTA)** and local transportation programs for persons with disabilities prior to graduation (410-767-3441, www.mta.maryland.gov/mobility)

~ **Apply for Medical Assistance** when your child turns 18. This is mandatory as part of the eligibility process for DDA-funded adult services. If your child receives SSI, Medical Assistance is provided; however, a separate application for MA must be completed. Call the Department of Social Services at 410-853-3000.

~ **Contact the IMAGE Center** about benefits counseling and programs available for teens and young adults (www.imagemd.org, 410-982-6311).

No later than the fall of the graduating year the student will need:

~ birth certificate

~ state ID card

~ original Social Security card

~ health insurance card