



## Student Support Services

785-296-3097 or 785-296-3869

785-296-6715 (fax)

120 SE 10th Avenue • Topeka, KS 66612-1182 • 785-296-6338 (TTY) • [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org) • [www.kansped.org](http://www.kansped.org)

### KSDE Memorandum – Transition Planning and Services

Kansas State Department of Education  
Rodney J. Bieker, General Counsel  
ZoAnn Torrey, State Director  
August 2005

In clarification of requirements for transition services contained in federal and state statutes, the following is offered to explain the requirements beginning for students at age 14 in Kansas.

As with the federal law, the final language of the state law concerning transition services does not retain the phrase “transition service needs.” However, the provisions of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (8) of section (c) of KSA 72-987, as amended by 2005 HB 2331, each set forth different requirements that retain, but expand upon, where we were under the prior law with regard to transition. Specifically, in (A), we must utilize transition assessments to develop measurable postsecondary goals (particularly in light of the age of the student) and under (B) look at what transition services, including courses of study, are needed and appropriate, and under (C) we must look at the transition services we have typically looked at for a student 16 years of age or older, including interagency responsibilities.

What is new is the fact that transition services are based upon transition assessments, and the IEP of each student, beginning at age 14, must include a measurable postsecondary goal(s), as appropriate to the age and abilities of the student, which may relate solely to academics or training, or to other matters, such as independent living skills. As a matter of practice, it is recommended that we continue to follow the guidance provided previously, do what we have been doing for the past year, except we now will add the transition assessments and measurable postsecondary goals. These items were added by the new federal law. In addition the state law retained the age of 14 for beginning transition planning and defined transition services to include courses of study.