

Streator Unlimited, Inc.

Guide for Transitioning Students



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Some Transition *Basics*:

Getting adult services is complicated

When you're in school, things happen fairly automatically and all children are entitled to education. You are not entitled to services as an adult, and in most cases it won't happen automatically.

Don't lose good habits

It's better to start services right after you graduate. That way you don't lose any of the good skills you learned in school.

Get in the door

You have to qualify for funding for adult services; this can depend on what type of disability you have and what your strengths and needs are. It can be very confusing, so ask for help. Even if you don't think Streator Unlimited is what you need, you can call us for help.

Be a pack rat

Hang on to your copies of any psychological evaluations. Even if you need services many years after you graduate, these can help prove you are eligible for services. Schools will keep your information for only 5 years after you graduate/exit.

| What do I want to do after school? | Streator Unlimited Programs that fit this: | Who do I call with questions? | When should I invite SU to my IEP to help as I plan my transition? | What are the eligibility requirements to enter the program and who do I contact? |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Get a job | SUCCESS | Stephanie Harcharik (815) 673-5574 | The year before I'm going to graduate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This program is funded by the Division of Rehabilitation Services (They decide who is eligible). (800) 641-3929 You should ask to be referred to Streator Unlimited. If your DRS counselor can't help you, call the state Client Assistance Program at (800) 641-3929 |
| Work to make money and increase my skills so I can get a job in the community | Workshop | Stephanie Harcharik (815) 673-5574 | Two years before graduation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must show that you have a developmental disability. One way to do this is to have a copy of a psychological evaluation that indicates an IQ below 70. You must want to work |
| Do interesting things during the day and work sometimes if I want to | Developmental Training (DT) | Melanie Ensign (815)673-5574 | When I go into High School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must have a developmental disability, be signed up for Medicaid, and be assessed as needing this service. Access Services Coordination screens people for eligibility for this program. There is a long waiting list for these services called PUNS (Prioritization of Unmet Needs) (815) 282-8824 |
| Live in a home with people to support me 24 hours a day or on my own (with occasional help) | Residential Services | Julie Carstens (815)672-7611 | Two years before graduation | --Same as above-- |
| Go to college | This is something we don't do | Contact the Division of Rehabilitation Services and/or the college of your choice for help | | |



How can I learn more about Streator Unlimited's services?

- Come tour the main building. A tour has never failed to surprise people and show them things they never knew before. We love to give tours.
- Call us and ask questions.
- Invite us to your IEP meeting (try to let us know a week or two in advance if you can)

How can I educate myself about Illinois' Service System?

- Sign up for the free Yahoo group IPADDUnite (Illinois Parents of Adults with Developmental Disabilities Unite) at: <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/IPADDUnite>
A valuable resource for parents.
- Join the Family Support Network or read for free on their website, <http://www.familysupportnetwork.org>

Who else can help me?

- Access Services (800-282-8824) for developmental disability services. Ask for the case manager of the day. Access can answer questions, screen for funding eligibility, and let you know about different choices for adult services.
- Illinoislifespan.org: A state-wide information and referral source for people with developmental disabilities.

What if I have some other kind of disability (not a developmental disability)?

- We can still help you find a job

About Us

Streator Unlimited, Inc has been providing services here in the Streator area since 1965. Learn more about us at our website

<http://www.streatorunlimited.org>



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