

Transition

Everything you need to know before your child turns 18



Guardianship & Alternatives

- ❑ Prior to 18th birthday, finalize with an attorney regarding guardianship & decision making support options.
 - Options Include
 - Full or limited guardianship
 - Powers of attorney (medical or financial)
 - Representative payee
 - Supported decision making
 - Release forms

Find additional information: <https://gwaar.org/guardianship-resources>

- [Guardianship Explained](#)
 - [Guardianship Alternatives](#)
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- ★ Wisconsin Guardianship Support Center at 1-855-409-9410.
 - ★ Southeast Regional Care Center located at Children's Hospital can assist

Power of Attorney

[Online Forms](#)

- ★ Check link above for most up-to-date versions of forms. Contact Wisconsin Guardianship Support Center at 1-855-409-9410 for questions regarding these forms contact below.
 - [Power of Attorney for Health Care](#)
 - [Power of Attorney for Finance and Property](#)
 - [Declaration to Physicians](#) (Wisconsin Living Will)
 - [Authorization for Final Disposition](#)

Supportive Decision Making

Information on Supportive Decision Making

- [Gwarr](#)
- [Toolkit](#)
- [DPI Information on Supportive Decision Making](#)

Long Term Care

Determine eligibility for Financial and Benefit Support

- **Contact DRC (Disability Resource Center)** - also known as the ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center)
- Complete an application for long-term support and benefits eligibility. The DRC will get you connected with someone to walk you through which long-term support options are best for your family (ie. IRIS vs. Family Care). The DRC will also have the most up-to-date service providers for Adults including options for adult day centers, independent living, etc.
 - Can call at age 17 yr. 6 months. Will complete a functional assessment to determine long-term care funding
 - DRC: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/adrc/index.htm
 - They will set up an appointment to do a functional screening
 - Once approved, they will walk you through the process of choosing Family Care or IRIS

Compare Options

- [Wisconsin Long-Term Care Comparison Chart](#)

Disability Benefit Specialist and Social Security Benefits

- The ADRC also has a Disability Benefit Specialist that can provide services. They can provide information and assistance with the social security application and appeal procedures as well as Medicare/Medicaid, prescription drug assistance, FoodShare, low-income tax credits, insurance issues, housing and utility issues, and veteran's benefits.
 - ★ This is an important process, as it will help determine how many hours an individual can work before losing benefits.
 - It's a free service.

[Brochure](#)

- **Contact Social Security Benefits (SSI or SSDI) and Medical Assistance**
 - Call at 18 yrs. Old.
 - 1-800-772-1213

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation - [DVR](#)

Can apply two years before leaving high school. If a student qualifies, they can receive assistance with achieving long and short term employment and career goals.

Supportive Employment & Job Coaching Services

Parents may choose from a variety of different companies to aid adults in finding a job, as well as to provide support to maintain employment. In addition to job development and supported employment, the companies listed below often provide additional services

- Project SEARCH
 - Project Search
 - Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Project SEARCH
 - Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Project SEARCH
 - Froedtert St. Joseph's Hospital Project SEARCH - West Bend
 - ProHealth Care Waukesha Memorial Hospital Project SEARCH
 - Andis Project SEARCH – Sturtevant WI
 - Project Search - Goodwill
 - Milwaukee County Zoo
 - Milwaukee Airport (MPS students only)

Important Pieces

Guardianship
Application for Long Term Care
Consider DVR



Put on the TO DO List

Get a WI state ID card

Make sure you have a social security card or passport (important doc for employment)

A bank account

Register to vote (18)

Males need to register for Selective Service (18)

During High School

How is my high school experience helping my son or daughter get ready for life after high school?

Is the transition program at my school good for my son or daughter and meeting his/her needs?

- Are they practicing life skills

- Learning about transportation options and practicing them

- Providing time for employment

- Done a skills inventory or transition assessment

Stay connected and watch for Transition Fairs, conferences, etc

Start thinking about after High School

How will my son or daughter spend their day?

Employment

Day Programming

College Programs

DSAW Classes

Community Recreation

Combination of the above

Where will they live?

Do they need supervision? Who will provide that supervision

Housing and Transportation

Where will they live?

Do they need supervision? Who will provide that supervision

How will they get around?

Van

City Bus

Uber or Lyft



Other Organizations & Resources

- [Wisconsin BPDD](#) - Board for People with Developmental Disabilities
 - BPDD offers so many resources, conferences and learning opportunities.
- [Think College](#) - Resource for parents/students thinking about different college opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.
 - Includes information on paying for college, planning for employment, campus housing and academic access
 - Bethesda at Concordia, Edgewood, Shepherds College, UW-Whitewater Project LIFE

Stay Connected with DSAW for Upcoming Opportunities