

About the Roadmap to Texas Transition Resources

Did you know that many local and state resources available to students or adults with disabilities go unused? The **Roadmap to Texas Transition Resources** includes lists by area to quickly identify needed resources: Advocacy, Financial, Legal, Education, Employment, and Community.

Whether you need resources now or are planning for life after graduation, this document identifies agencies and programs across Texas. During transition planning at any age, the listed resources can help:

Educators

- Consider supports for students and families within the local education agency (LEA) and surrounding community
- Facilitate connection to statewide agencies
- Identify specific contact information to share with students and families

Students and Families

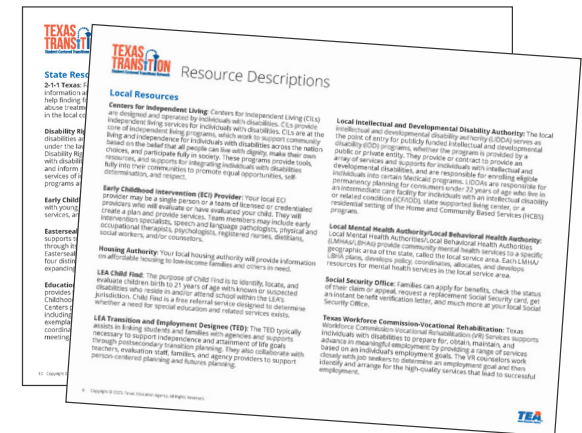
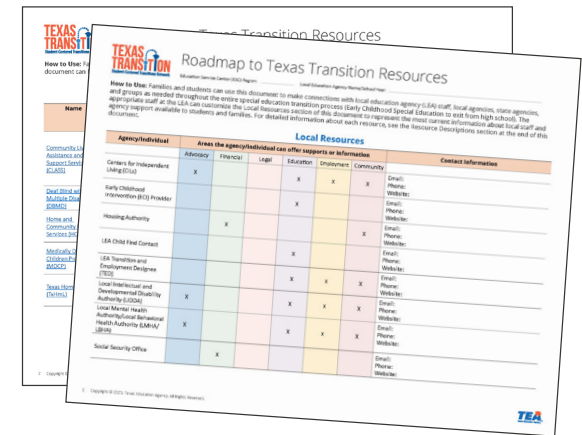
- Identify supports needed now or in the future
- Make connections with agencies that can provide services

See the Resource Descriptions at the end of the **Roadmap** to learn more about each local and state resource included in the lists.

For questions about the **Roadmap to Texas Transition Resources**, you may contact:

- Your LEA's Transition and Employment Designee (TED)
- The transition contact at your regional Education Service Center (ESC)

For more information about transition planning, see the Texas Transition & Employment Guide available at spedsupport.tea.texas.gov.



Roadmap to Texas Transition Resources

Education Service Center (ESC) Region: _____ Local Education Agency Name/School Year: _____

How to Use: Families and students can use this document to make connections with local education agency (LEA) staff, local agencies, state agencies, and groups as needed throughout the entire special education transition process (Early Childhood Special Education to exit from high school). The appropriate staff at the LEA can customize the Local Resources section of this document to represent the most current information about local staff and agency support available to students and families. For detailed information about each resource, see the Resource Descriptions section at the end of this document.

Local Resources

Agency/Individual	Areas the agency/individual can offer supports or information						Contact Information
	Advocacy	Financial	Legal	Education	Employment	Community	
Centers for Independent Living (CILs)	X			X	X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Provider				X			Email: Phone: Website:
Housing Authority		X				X	Email: Phone: Website:
LEA Child Find Contact				X			Email: Phone: Website:
LEA Transition and Employment Designee (TED)				X	X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA)	X			X	X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
Local Mental Health Authority/Local Behavioral Health Authority (LMHA/LBHA)	X			X	X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
Social Security Office		X					Email: Phone: Website:

Agency/Individual	Areas the agency/individual can offer supports or information						Contact Information
	Advocacy	Financial	Legal	Education	Employment	Community	
Texas Workforce Commission–Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Office				X	X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
The Arc of Texas	X				X	X	Email: Phone: Website:
Transportation Authority						X	Email: Phone: Website:

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State Resources

Agency/Individual	Areas the agency/individual can offer supports or information						Contact Information
	Advocacy	Financial	Legal	Education	Employment	Community	
2-1-1 Texas	X	X	X		X		Website: 211texas.org
Disability Rights Texas	X		X				Phone: Headquarters/Central Texas: 512-454-4816; North Texas: 214-630-0916; West Texas: 806-765-7794; East Texas: 713-974-7691; El Paso Area: 915-542-0585; South Texas: 210-737-0499 Website: disabilityrightstx.org
Early Childhood Texas				X			Email: info@earlychildhood.texas.gov Website: earlychildhood.texas.gov
Easterseals				X	X	X	Email: info@easterseals.com Phone: 800-221-6827 Website: easterseals.com/connect-locally/?state=TX
Education Service Center Early Childhood Contacts				X			Website: texastransition.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=2148515&type=d&pREC_ID=2166820
Goodwill					X	X	Website: goodwill.org/jobs-training/people-with-disabilities
Legal Hotline for Texans	X	X	X		X		Website: Texaslawhelp.org
Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA)	X	X		X		X	Website: Local IDD Authority (LIDDA) Texas Health and Human Services
Medicaid		X					Website: hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip
PACER Center	X			X			Email: pacer.org/forms Phone: 952-838-9000 Website: pacer.org
Parent Companion (birth to age 5)	X			X		X	Email: parentcompanion@esc13.txed.net Phone: 866-896-6001 Website: parentcompanion.org

Agency/Individual	Areas the agency/individual can offer supports or information						Contact Information
	Advocacy	Financial	Legal	Education	Employment	Community	
Partners Resource Network (PRN)	X						Email: info@prntexas.org Phone: 800-866-4726 Website: prntexas.org and navigatelifetexas.org/en/services-groups-events/services/partners-resource-network-2
Regional Head Start Office				X			Email: Dallas@acf.hhs.gov Website: acf.hhs.gov/oro/regional-offices/region6 Regional Contact: Kenneth Gilbert, Regional Program Manager Phone: 214-767-8844 Email: kenneth.gilbert@acf.hhs.gov
Special Education Parent Advocates	X			X			Website: https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/government-relations-and-legal/special-education-hearings/office-of-general-counsel-special-education-general-information Email: se-legal@tea.texas.gov
Special Education Parent Attorneys			X				Website: https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/government-relations-and-legal/special-education-hearings/office-of-general-counsel-special-education-general-information Email: se-legal@tea.texas.gov
SPEDTex	X	X					Email: spedtex.org/index.cfm/contact-us Phone: 855-773-3839 Website: spedtex.org
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)		X			X		Website: ssa.gov/disability
TEA AskTED				X			Website: AskTED Home
TEA's Student-Centered Transitions Network (SCTN)	X			X	X		Email: sctn@shsu.edu Website: spedsupport.tea.texas.gov
Texas ABLE		X					Email: customerservice@texasable.org Phone: 844-489-2253 Website: texasable.org

Agency/Individual	Areas the agency/individual can offer supports or information						Contact Information
	Advocacy	Financial	Legal	Education	Employment	Community	
Texas Advocates	X				X		Website: texadvocates.org and texadvocates.org/our-chapters
Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD)	X						Email: tcdd@tcdd.texas.gov Phone: 512-437-5432 Website: tcdd.texas.gov
Texas Deafblind Outreach	X			X	X		Email: info@tsbvi.edu Phone: 512-454-8631 Website: tsbvi.edu/outreach
Texas Education Agency (TEA)	X			X			Phone: 512-463-9734 Website: tea.texas.gov
Texas Free and/or Low Cost Legal Services	X		X				Direct Contacts: Document Link Website: https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/government-relations-and-legal/special-education-hearings/office-of-general-counsel-special-education-general-information Email: se-legal@tea.texas.gov
Texas Health and Human Services (HHS)	X	X			X	X	Phone: 2-1-1 Website: hhs.texas.gov/services/disability
Texas Health and Human Services (Medicaid waivers)		X			X		Website: Compare Long-term Services and Supports (LTSS) Programs
Texas Parent to Parent	X	X		X			Email: info@txp2p.org Phone: 512-458-8600 Website: txp2p.org
The Arc of Texas	X				X	X	Email: info@thearcoftexas.org Phone: 512-454-6694 Website: thearcoftexas.org
Your Texas Benefits		X					Phone: 512-424-6500 Website: yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/Home

Roadmap to Texas Transition Resources

Education Service Center (ESC) Region: _____ Local Education Agency Name/School Year: _____

How to Use: Families and students can use this document to identify the Texas Medicaid waiver programs that are appropriate for their needs. This document can be used as a first step to investigating the different waivers offered through [Texas Health and Human Services](#).

Texas Medicaid Waiver Programs

Name	Phone Number	Therapy	Living Supports	Home/Vehicle Modifications	Nursing and Dental Services	Medical Supplies/Adaptive Aids	Employment Supports	Is there an age limit to receive services?	Other Information
Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)	877-438-5658	X	X	X	X	X	X	No	Provides home- and community-based services to individuals with an intellectual disability or related condition as a cost-effective alternative to placement in an intermediate care facility.
Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD)	877-787-8999	X	X	X	X	X		No	Cannot be enrolled in another waiver program.
Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)	512-483-5800	X	X	X	X	X	X	No	Must have an intellectual disability under state law or a diagnosis of a related condition with an IQ of 75 or below.
Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)	877-438-5658		X	X		X	X	Yes: Must be under 21 years old	Provides flexible family services that support a person's basic daily activities, like bathing, dressing, and preparing meals.
Texas Home Living (TxHmL)	512-438-3011	X	X	X	X	X	X	No	Must have an intellectual disability under state law or a diagnosis of a related condition with an IQ of 75 or below.

Local Resources

Centers for Independent Living: Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are designed and operated by individuals with disabilities. CILs provide independent living services for individuals with disabilities. CILs are at the core of independent living programs, which work to support community living and independence for individuals with disabilities across the nation based on the belief that all people can live with dignity, make their own choices, and participate fully in society. These programs provide tools, resources, and supports for integrating individuals with disabilities fully into their communities to promote equal opportunities, self-determination, and respect.

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Provider: Your local ECI provider may be a single person or a team of licensed or credentialed providers who will evaluate or have evaluated your child. They will create a plan and provide services. Team members may include early intervention specialists, speech and language pathologists, physical and occupational therapists, psychologists, registered nurses, dietitians, social workers, and/or counselors.

Housing Authority: Your local housing authority will provide information on affordable housing to low-income families and others in need.

LEA Child Find: The purpose of Child Find is to identify, locate, and evaluate children birth to 21 years of age with known or suspected disabilities who reside in and/or attend school within the LEA's jurisdiction. Child Find is a free referral service designed to determine whether a need for special education and related services exists.

LEA Transition and Employment Designee (TED): The TED assists in linking students and families with agencies and supports necessary for independence and attainment of life goals through postsecondary transition planning. They also collaborate with teachers, evaluation staff, families, and agency providers to support person-centered planning and futures planning.

Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority: The local intellectual and developmental disability authority (LIDDA) serves as the point of entry for publicly funded intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) programs, whether the program is provided by a public or private entity. They provide or contract to provide an array of services and supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and are responsible for enrolling eligible individuals into certain Medicaid programs. LIDDAs are responsible for permanency planning for consumers under 22 years of age who live in an intermediate care facility for individuals with an intellectual disability or related condition (ICF/IDD), state supported living center, or a residential setting of the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program.

Local Mental Health Authority/Local Behavioral Health Authority: Local Mental Health Authorities/Local Behavioral Health Authorities (LMHAs/LBHAs) provide community mental health services to a specific geographic area of the state, called the local service area. Each LMHA/LBHA plans, develops policy, coordinates, allocates, and develops resources for mental health services in the local service area.

Social Security Office: Families can apply for benefits, check the status of their claim or appeal, request a replacement Social Security card, get an instant benefit verification letter, and much more at your local Social Security Office.

Texas Workforce Commission-Vocational Rehabilitation: Texas Workforce Commission-Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services supports individuals with disabilities to prepare for, obtain, maintain, and advance in meaningful employment by providing a range of services based on an individual's employment goals. The VR counselors work closely with job seekers to determine an employment goal and then identify and arrange for the high-quality services that lead to successful employment.

The Arc of Texas: The Arc of Texas is a statewide advocacy and membership organization that supports and advocates for the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). They work with and alongside individuals with IDD and their families to identify barriers and solutions to inclusive education, competitive integrated employment, quality community-based services and supports, and support access to civil rights and justice.

Transportation Authority: The Public Transportation Division works with others to provide a safe, reliable network of transportation options for people who use alternatives to driving alone. The division provides financial, technical, and coordination assistance to the state's rural and urban public transit providers. Make sure to ask about paratransit in your area. Paratransit provides transportation for individuals with disabilities who are unable to use the regular, fixed-route transit service that serves their region. Paratransit usually provides door-to-door service for people who call to reserve a ride.

State Resources

2-1-1 Texas: Families can dial 2-1-1, or (877) 541-7905, and find information about resources in their local community. Whether needing help finding food, housing, childcare, crisis counseling, or substance abuse treatment, 2-1-1 can assist in finding information and resources in the local community.

Disability Rights Texas: Disability Rights Texas helps individuals with disabilities and their families understand and exercise their rights under the law, ensuring their full and equal participation in society. Disability Rights Texas provides direct legal assistance to individuals with disabilities whose rights are threatened or violated. They educate and inform policymakers about issues that impact the rights and services of individuals with disabilities. They also make referrals to programs and services.

Early Childhood Texas: Early Childhood Texas aims to provide families with young children easy access to Texas state agency programs, services, and resources.

Easterseals: Easterseals provides essential services and on-the-ground supports to more than 1.5 million individuals and families each year through its national network of affiliates in communities nationwide. Easterseals offers a variety of home and community-based services in four distinct areas of impact: enriching education, enhancing health, expanding employment, and elevating community.

Education Service Center Early Childhood Contacts: Texas Early Childhood Special Education Specialists at the Education Service Centers provide training and technical assistance in a variety of areas including curriculum development, selection and use of materials, exemplary models and promising practices, inclusion, inter-agency coordination, and assessment to support early childhood providers in meeting the learning needs of students with disabilities.

Goodwill: Goodwill helps all job seekers, regardless of their ability, work history, or background, access the training and support they need to grow their careers and support their families. Goodwill can also provide customized services to help individuals with disabilities. Your local Goodwill might also provide one or more of the following programs for individuals with disabilities: might provide placement and support services targeted at individual, specific needs to help obtain and keep a competitive job. They might also provide rehabilitation programs that help individuals with disabilities recover physically after an illness or accident.

Legal Hotline for Texans: TexasLawHelp.org is dedicated to providing free, reliable legal information to low-income Texans. The website is part of a national legal aid effort that is using technology to enhance and expand the delivery of legal services. It is managed by Texas Legal Services Center (TLSC). TLSC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that empowers underserved Texans through legal education, advocacy, advice, and representation. The information is available at no cost.

Local Mental Health Authority/Local Behavioral Health Authority: Local Mental Health Authorities/Local Behavioral Health Authorities (LMHAs/LBHAs) provide community mental health services to a specific geographic area of the state, called the local service area. Each LMHA/LBHA plans, develops policy, coordinates, allocates, and develops resources for mental health services in the local service area.

Medicaid: Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provide health coverage for low-income children, families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

PACER Center: PACER provides individual assistance, workshops, publications, and other resources to help families make decisions about education and other services for their child or young adult with disabilities. PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center® provides resources designed to benefit all students, including those with disabilities.

Parent Companion: A guide for Texas parents and caregivers of children with diagnosed or suspected disabilities from birth through five years of age.

Partners Resource Network: Partners Resource Network (PRN) is a non-profit agency that operates the Texas statewide network of Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs) serving parents of children and youth with disabilities ages 0-26 as well as youth self-advocates ages 14-26. PRN helps parents and self-advocates understand their disability, find programs and service options, understand state and federal laws, communicate more effectively with professionals, gain advocacy skills, and build a support network. All services are free to parents and youth self-advocates.

Regional Head Start Office: The Office of Head Start (OHS) manages grant funding and oversees local agencies providing Head Start services. Head Start promotes the school readiness of children under age five from low-income families through education, health, social, and other services. OHS also oversees the day-to-day management of Head Start grantees and collaborates with OHS state collaboration projects on all significant policy matters.

Special Education Parent Advocates: These advocates represent and assist students in special education disputes.

Special Education Parent Attorneys: These attorneys represent and assist students in special education disputes.

SPEDTex: SPEDTex provides information and resources that can help families understand their child's disability, their rights and responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and facilitates collaboration that supports the development and delivery of services to Texas children with disabilities.

Supplemental Security Income: Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability program is the largest of several federal programs that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities. SSI pays benefits based on financial need.

TEA AskTED: The AskTED directory can be used to identify the transition and employment designee and other key personnel in any LEA across the state. Use the drop-down menus to access the Texas Education Directory Customized Reports and Data Files.

TEA's Student-Centered Transitions Network: TEA's Student-Centered Transitions Network (SCTN) builds collaborative infrastructures among students, families, schools, LEAs, and communities. The SCTN aims for all students with disabilities to be actively involved in planning, communicating, and evaluating progress in meeting their transition goals from early childhood through high school graduation and postsecondary readiness.

Texas ABLE®: The Texas Achieving a Better Life Experience (Texas ABLE®) Program was established to encourage and assist individuals with disabilities and their families in saving funds to pay for many disability-related expenses critical to maintaining the individuals' health, independence, and quality of life. The Texas ABLE® Program is established and maintained by the Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board with assistance from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Texas Advocates: Texas Advocates works to stop unfair treatment and advocate for additional and better supports to allow individuals with disabilities to be included in their communities.

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities: The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD) helps individuals with developmental disabilities achieve their potential for independence, productivity, and integration into their communities through the development of a comprehensive system of services and supports.

Texas Deafblind Outreach: Texas Deafblind Outreach provides a variety of services including training, consultations, American Printing House for the Blind (APH) materials, Tech Loan, and more. Outreach assistance is available at little or no charge.

Texas Education Agency: The Texas Education Agency (TEA) oversees primary and secondary public education. It is headed by the commissioner of education. The Texas Education Agency improves outcomes for all public school students in the state by providing leadership, guidance, and support to school systems.

Texas Free and/or Low-Cost Legal Services: This list contains information about free or low-cost legal service providers in Texas. *The list is not exhaustive and TEA, its employees, and contractors cannot provide recommendations on which provider, if any, families should choose.*

Texas Health and Human Services: Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) provides a range of services to Texans with disabilities to help ensure their well-being, dignity, and choices. Programs are also in place to support family members who care for them.

Texas Health and Human Services (Medicaid Waivers): Texas Health and Human Services allows families to investigate community-based long-term services and support programs by comparing the similarities and differences among the Texas State Medicaid Plan, Medicaid waiver program, and Title XX Social Service Block Grant program services and eligibility criteria.

Texas Parent to Parent: Texas Parent to Parent provides support, information, and education for families of children and adults with disabilities, chronic and mental health conditions, and other health care needs.

The Arc of Texas: The Arc of Texas is a statewide advocacy and membership organization that supports and advocates for the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). They work with and alongside individuals with IDD and their families to identify barriers and solutions to inclusive education, competitive integrated employment, quality community-based services and supports, and support access to civil rights and justice.

Your Texas Benefits: Your Texas Benefits provides families a convenient way to apply for and manage Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Texas Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Families can apply for benefits, upload documents, check the status of their case, and more.