



"Creating Connections"

## Transitioning to College

### From Dependence to Independence

- Challenge for all
- Must advocate for yourself!!

### First Step:

- Self-Assessment and Career Choice
  - Use interest inventories, aptitude tests, etc.

Then determine wants and needs and understand the nature of work in possible careers

- Dictionary of Occupational Titles
- [www.unixl.com/dir/](http://www.unixl.com/dir/)
- Career and job fairs where you talk with prospective employers and also,
- Consult with teachers, VR counselors, and of course parents and friends

### Choosing a College

- Start two years before graduation

- Check out library at high school for college catalogs

If you have decided upon a preferred career goal college choice should start with *finding colleges that offer the program/degree* needed to work in that field in the current labor market.

Make an appointment to visit the college

**Be sure to check out:**

- 1. Disability office – what services do they really offer**
- 2. Academic advisor**
- 3. Talk with other students to see how they like it and what program they are taking**
- 4. Is campus accessible?  
Too big? Too small?**

Applying to College

- **Students need to be aware of requirements for admission**
  - ☆ **What is the minimum G.P.A.**
  - ☆ **SAT required?**
  - ☆ **What is the deadline for having all application materials to the college?**
  - ☆ **Meet with college counselor/academic advisor**

## ***College Finances***

- Tuition isn't the only cost
  - Books/supplies, living expenses
  - Room and board
  
- Who will pay?
  - Parents
  - Students
  - VR
  - Grants/scholarships
  - Work part time/work study
  - Loans

☆ **Apply for grants, scholarships ASAP!**

FAF – Financial Aid Forms available at college

## ***Accommodations***

*What:*

What kind/type of accommodation do you need?

Note takers, interpreters, etc.

*How:*

The student needs to speak with disability office directly

**It is the student's responsibility to ask for accommodations**

1. Try to know in advance what will be needed
2. Research, investigate and gather information before you arrive at school regarding possible accommodations
3. Visit the college and speak to someone in Disability Office to discuss what you need and what can be provided before semester begins. Is campus accessible for you?
4. Fill out an necessary forms. Provide copies of any testing/evaluations that were done within last 1-2 years documenting recommended accommodations.

Good Luck and have fun!