

Transition: A Series of Family Decisions



KYLA

Welcome to Transition: A Series of Family Decisions.

For **ALL** families leaving EI




KYLA - As we talk about federal and state transition requirements and figuring out how to implement and document those requirements, it's important to remember that the purpose behind the federal and state requirements related to transition and behind the transition section of our IFSP is to ensure children and families receive the support they need for a smooth transition when they're leaving EI. Transition planning is for all families.

Child's Name: _____

IFSP Date: _____ DOB: _____

Infant & Toddler
Connection of Virginia



Section VII: Transition Planning

The following information about transition is discussed beginning at the initial IFSP meeting:

- o Transition happens when your child leaves early intervention. The planning on this page will help you and your child move smoothly from early intervention to whatever comes next for your child.
- o Options after early intervention (examples: community programs like neighborhood nursery schools, Head Start, early childhood special education through the public schools).
- o Possible timing of transition
 - When your child reaches age level in all developmental areas and meets no other eligibility requirements for early intervention
 - When your child reaches his/her third birthday, which is the end of eligibility for early intervention
 - When and if your child begins early childhood special education services through the public schools (between age 2 and 3), if you are interested in those services. Children may not be served in early intervention and early childhood special education through the public schools at the same time.

This information was discussed on _____ (date) by _____ (initials of service coordinator)

Important Dates for Transition Planning:

_____ - target date for notification and referral to determine eligibility if you are interested in early childhood special education services through your local school system (referral must occur at least 90 days before the anticipated date of transition and must occur by April 1 of the year your child turns 2 by Sept. 30 if you want your child to begin school on the first day of the next school year).

_____ (date of child's 3rd birthday) – date on which your child is no longer eligible to receive early intervention


KYLA - And all families receive the same initial, general information about transition. We share this information as families enter EI (at the initial IFSP meeting) and it's provided in Section VII, the transition section of the IFSP.


These are the two boxes at the top of Section VII

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KYLA - The 1st box explains what transition means and possible timing.
Enter the date this information was fully shared with the family and the initials of the service coordinator

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KYLA - The 2nd box gives important transition dates for this specific child and family. The purpose is to give the family an idea about when transition might occur. There is no commitment here ... it doesn't matter whether the family is interested in going to Part B or how old the child is. You're saying ... Just to give you an idea, if you decide you're interested in preschool services through the school system, then in Virginia your child would be age eligible at the start of the school year in 2018 and we would need to be notifying the local school system by April 1 of that year. Otherwise, if your child remains eligible for EI services, then he could continue to receive those services until his third birthday. As your child gets older we'll talk more about your specific plans and figure out exactly where in this window of time transition will actually happen.

Enter the target date for notification and referral for early childhood special education services and the date of the child's third birthday. Both dates must be completed.

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KYLA - Let's talk about the date we use for this first line in the second box, target date for notification and referral. The state interagency agreement that we have with the Department of Education in Virginia says that the notification and referral must happen by April 1st of that year when the child will be 2 by September 30. So, unless you have a local interagency agreement with the school system that has a different notification and referral deadline, the target date you enter here will generally be April 1 of the year the child turns 2 by September 30.

The only other exception to using an April 1 date here would be if the child was referred to EI after April 1 of the year when the child would be age eligible to start preschool services under Part B. In that case, you'll use a date 1-2 weeks away ... telling the family: "We could be sending a referral to the local school system as soon as a week/two weeks from now if you're interested in Johnny transitioning to early childhood special education services next year or he could be staying in EI until his third birthday." Again ... there's no decision happening yet. You're just giving the family the earliest date referral could happen and the latest date their child would be transitioning.



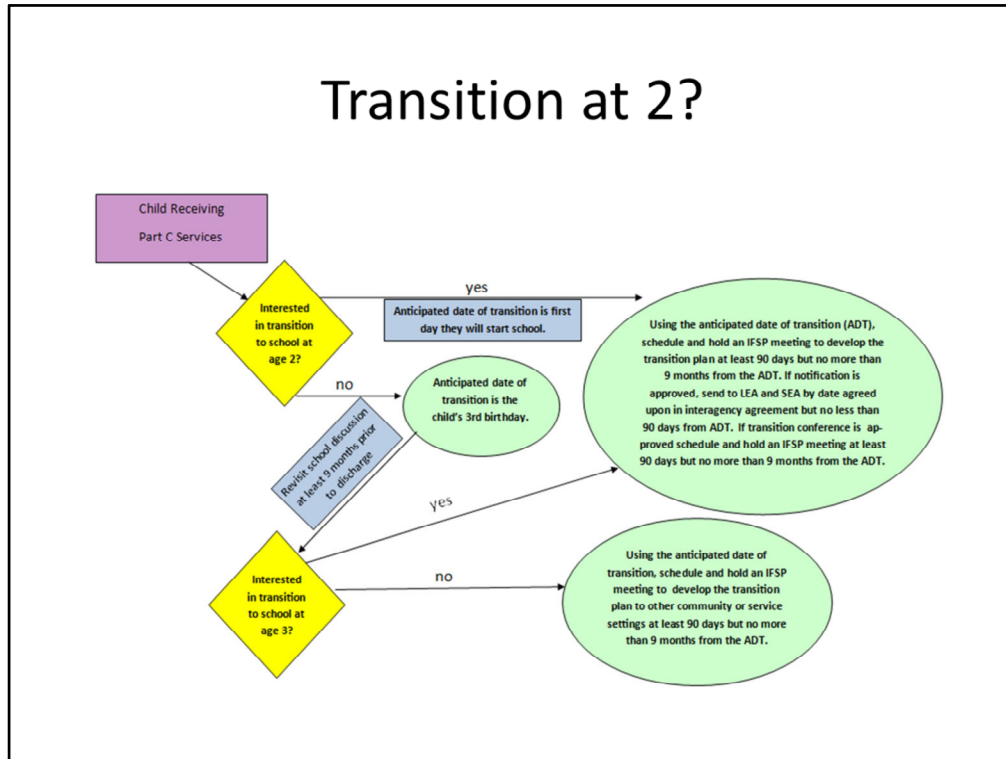
SARAH - With these early conversations, you've given the family a general idea about what transition is and when it might occur. After that, the timing for further planning and the specific steps and activities that must be addressed and documented will depend on a series of family decisions.

When?



SARAH - As you discussed with families in those top 2 boxes in Section VII of the IFSP, you're generally going to be planning for transition at age 2 or age 3.

Transition at 2?



SARAH - Since children in Virginia are potentially eligible to transition to early childhood special education services at age 2, start by assuming the child will transition at that point. Work backwards 9 months from the date the child would start school as a 2-year-old (since you can develop a transition plan up to 9 months before the child transitions and this gives you plenty of time). That should be the time when you approach the family about more specific transition plans for their child. Ask the question you see in the top yellow diamond on the flow chart: Are you interested in transition to school at age 2? The family's answer to that question will guide your next steps.

Next: Develop Transition Plan

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Transition Plan

The transition activities completed will depend on your transition plans and family preferences.

Transition Steps/Activities	Target Date	Date Completed	Initials Person Completing
1. Community Options: Help your family explore community program options, which may			

SARAH - When you move from sharing general information about transition (the top two boxes in Section VII) to planning specific steps and activities to support this particular family's transition decisions, it's time to develop the Transition Plan. It's labeled this way in Section VII of the IFSP. Please view the tutorial titled "Transition: Developing the Plan & Documenting the Steps" for instructions on how to complete the Transition Plan portion of Section VII in the IFSP.