

T.I.P.S.

Transition Information for Parents and Students -January 2025-

When a person reaches the age of majority, they have legally become an adult. The Code of Virginia states "a person shall be an adult, shall be of full age, and shall reach the age of majority when he becomes 18 years of age" (Age of Majority, 1972). Until the age of majority, a person is considered a minor, and their parents or legal guardians are responsible for their rights and responsibilities.

DID YOU KNOW?

When students with disabilities who are receiving special education and related services reach the age of majority (age 18 in Virginia), the Parental Rights in Special Education transfer to the student. This means that the student has full access to the school record and makes the final decision in all matters related to special education including the contents of the Individualized Education Program (IEP). The student is required to sign permission for placement where the parent has formerly been the person granting this permission.

In situations where a student or parent believes that the student will be unable to make an informed consent decision, there are procedures that permit the parent to continue to represent the student in the special education process. Options to consider if you and/or your adult student believe they need assistance making educational decisions upon reaching the age of majority include:

- Supported Decision Making
- Appointment to Make Educational Decisions
- Guardianship and Power of Attorney

VDOE provides information to support families in making these decisions: [Secondary Transition Services for Student with Disabilities](#). Using this link, families can find resources to answer "How do we know we are doing right?".

Other resources to support these decisions include:

[Guardianship and Conservatorship:](#)
[American Bar Association](#)

[National Resource Center for](#)
[Supported Decision-Making](#)

[disAbility Law Center Resources](#)

[Decision Making Options \(PEATC\)](#)

[Age of Majority: Rights and Responsibilities](#)

[\(VCU Center for Transition Innovations, VCU-CTI\)](#)



Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education and the Partnership for People with Disabilities

The Youth & Family Summit is a three-day event held each June.

Youth with disabilities from across the Commonwealth meet to network and discuss important issues together.

This year's theme and focus is Relatedness.

Date: June 10-June 12, 2025

Location: James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA

Ages: 14-18 (as of June 10, 2025)

Cost: This event is fully sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education and the Partnership for People with Disabilities.

Accepted families receive free meals and lodging (dorm rooms) during the event, as well as mileage reimbursement.

All applications are due by January 12, 2025 by midnight. If you run into any trouble with your application or have additional questions about the process, email event@imdetermined.org.

APPLY NOW





TRANSITION UNIVERSITY

Presented by PEATC in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)



A FREE Parent-Friendly 5-Session
Self-Paced Online Course on
Transition to Adulthood



February 10, 2025– April 14, 2025





Special Education Workshop Series Winter 2025

PEATC presents this virtual workshop series for parents and professionals who want to learn more about special education in Virginia.

January 29 - From Referral to Eligibility
February 12 - Anatomy of an IEP
February 26 - Measurable IEP Goals
March 12 - Ins and Outs of IEP Meetings
March 26 - Dispute Resolution

Each workshop will start at 6:30 p.m. and will last approximately 1 to 1.5 hours.

Read descriptions for each workshop at peatc.org/events.

These sessions will not be recorded.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

