

High School to Adult Life Transition Resource Directory Provided by Old National Trail Special Services

This 10-page directory is designed to assist students who are leaving high school and entering the world of independent living. A variety of resources are listed which will help young adults locate resources they may need as they transition from high school. This directory is divided into eleven sections:

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Records

If you need a copy of your Individual Education Plan (IEP) or psychological report, Old National Trail Special Services keeps records for a specified period of time depending upon when/why you exit special services. To request a copy of your most current IEP or psychological evaluation, contact Old National Trail Special Services located at 1 North Calbert Way, Suite B, Greencastle, IN 46135 **(765) 653-2781**.

Free Internet Access

In order to access many of the applications and program/services in the directory, you will need access to a computer with internet. Free internet access is available at your local library. The public library also has a wealth of information and employees who would be happy to assist. To find your local library go to: www.in.gov/library/pldirectory.htm

Dial 211 – Social Services Toll-free Number

The phone number 211 may be called if you need information/address/phone number for social services such as a local food banks, health clinics, clothing assistance, rent assistance, utilities assistance, public transportation, etc. The following website also lists all supports: www.connect2help211.org or **(317) 926-4357**

Age of Majority and Registering for the Military Draft

In Indiana, an individual is considered a legal adult at age 18. At this age, a young adult has rights over their medical, legal, financial, and living arrangements. It's the law for males to register for the military draft. Males may register as soon as they reach the age of 17 years and 3 months but must register within 30 days of turning 18. One may register for the draft at a United States Post Office or online at <https://www.sss.gov/RegVer/wfRegistration.aspx>

Indiana High School Equivalency Test - Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC)

The high school equivalency test in Indiana is now called TASC. It took the place of the GED test. The TASC assesses five subject areas: reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. To find a test preparation area near you, visit: www.in.gov/dwd/adulted_locations.htm

2. POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL AID

504 Coordinator

Each college or university should have a 504 Coordinator or office of disabilities. Schedule an appointment with this office to review your needs for academic supports. There will be a person who will be available to assist with accommodations while in college/university. The 504 Coordinator will also be able to assist with other resources available on campus such as tutoring and mental health services. They may ask for the most current Individual Education Plan and psychological report. If you do not have these documents, please contact Old National Trail Special Services at **(765) 653-2781**.

College Navigator

College Navigator is a free consumer information tool designed to help students, parents, and high school counselors get information about over 7,000 postsecondary institutions in the United States - such as degrees awarded, costs, enrollment, aid available, etc. Go to "More Search Options" to narrow search criteria. Visit: <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>

Scholarships and Grants

Thinking about going to college but don't have the funds? There are scholarship programs, grants, and educational aid. It is important to apply by the due dates.

FAFSA

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid because it is filed with the US Department of Education, but most state-sponsored and college-sponsored aid requires the same FAFSA filing, so it is not only for federally-sponsored student aid as the name might imply. The FAFSA is used by aid providers to determine the amount of the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is the amount they expect the student's family could contribute toward the student's college education.

Complete the FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.gov>

The following site explains the FAFSA and gives helpful tips: www.studentaid.ed.gov

Indiana Choice Scholarship Program

Indiana is committed to providing all children access to quality educational opportunities. Indiana's Choice Scholarship Program, commonly referred to as the voucher program, (authorized under Indiana Code) provides scholarships to eligible Indiana student to offset tuition costs at participating schools. Students must satisfy both household income requirements and student eligibility criteria to qualify.

<https://www.doe.in.gov/choice>

Parent PLUS Loans

College grants and scholarships ease the financial burden. Get more money for your college education with a PLUS Loan. A PLUS Loan is a loan from the U.S. federal government for parents of dependent college undergraduate student. Visit it Federal Student Aid United States Department of Education at www.studentaid.ed.gov

Pell Grants

Pell Grants are education grants from the U.S. federal government. If you're thinking of getting a degree and can demonstrate financial need, apply for Pell Grants to help fund your education. Federal Student Aid United States Department of Education www.studentaid.ed.gov

Raise.me Scholarship

High school students create an account at raise.me and enter grades as well as community involvement to build a scholarship for post-secondary schooling. <https://www.raise.me/>

Scholarship Information

Work with your guidance department at your high school to find scholarships that may be right for you. Ask a high school guidance counselor for a list of scholarships. In Indiana, each of the 92 counties offers scholarships through their community foundation, so check with the community foundation in your area. For a complete list and contact information of community foundations in Indiana, go to:

www.nonprofitexpert.com/community-foundations/indiana-community-foundations/

Colleges and universities also offer many scholarships; consider this when applying at a trade school, college, or university. Additional scholarships are available through internet searches such as:

<http://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-state/indiana-scholarships>

Your local church and businesses may offer scholarships. Take time to explore online options as well as local options. The Financial Aid Office at your college/university will also assist. Ask for guidance.

Stafford Loans

When you're working your way through school, every penny counts. Take advantage of federal grants and loans. If you're enrolled in an accredited school, you may be eligible for a Stafford Loan. This type of student loan requires no payments as long as you are enrolled at least half time.

Federal Student Aid United States Department of Education <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov>

3. EMPLOYMENT**Employment - Indiana Career Connect**

IndianaCareerConnect.com is the number one source of jobs in Indiana. Find a career close to home that matches your skills and experiences or explore training opportunities to help you get the job you want. Search over 99,000 jobs located in your backyard for free! IndianaCareerConnect.com

Employment - Manpower

Whether you're just entering the workforce, have decided on a career change or looking for a new job, it's your time to win in the world of work – and Manpower can help. Visit manpower.com to search for jobs online or to locate a nearby Manpower location.

Employment - WorkOne

WorkOne can help you find a new or better job, choose a career, access training, or get the information needed to succeed in today's job market. Offices are located throughout Indiana. Visit **WorkOneWorks.com** to learn more and find a location near you or call **1-888-967-5663**.

Military

If you are interested in exploring a military career (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, or Navy), the following website is a good place to begin: www.military.com/join-armed-forces To locate a recruiter near you, visit: todaysmilitary.com/contact-a-recruiter

Next Level Jobs Indiana

The Workforce Ready Grant provides Next Level Jobs opportunities for working-age adults to earn a high-value certificate for *free* in a high-demand job in Indiana. nextleveljobs.org

Training

Want to locate a nearby training programs to become a welder, computer technician, dental assistant, etc., you may research training and resources at webapps.dwd.in.gov/INTraining/

4. SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT OR UNABLE TO WORK**Bureau of Developmental Disabilities (BDDS) and Medicaid Waiver**

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS) provides services for individuals with developmental disabilities that enable them to live as independently as possible in their communities. BDDS assists individuals in receiving community supports and residential services using a person-centered plan to help determine which services are needed and who can best provide them. If you need help completing a waiver application or assistance with the Medicaid Waiver process, the **Arc of Indiana** (page 4 of this document) or **Family Voices Indiana** (page 4 of this document) will help. To find a nearby BDDS location and to learn more about community Medicaid Waivers, visit:

<https://secure.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2639.htm> or call **1-800-545-7763**.

Arc of Indiana

The Arc of Indiana is committed to all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities realizing their goals of learning, living, working, and fully participating in the community. The Arc of Indiana may assist those interested in completing a Medicaid Waiver application or obtaining guardianship. Location: 107 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46204 <http://www.arcind.org> or **1-317-977-2375**

Family Voices Indiana

If you need help completing applications for health insurance, the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities, or other documents that will allow access to services, Family Voices Indiana will help you complete the forms. They will also assist with the process of obtaining guardianship. Family Voices Indiana is a network of families who have experience helping individuals with special needs access supports.

<http://www.fvindiana.org/home> or **(844) 323-4636**

Putnam County Comprehensive Services

Putnam County Comprehensive Services provides services to adults with disabilities in order for them to reach their optimum potential in attitudes, habits, and skills through training and community integration. pccsinc.org or (765) 653-9763

Sycamore Services

Sycamore Services makes a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities and others experiencing daily challenges by providing individualized training and services to increase independence and enhance quality of life. sycamoreservices.com or (317) 745-4715

Vocational Rehabilitation – Job Training and/or Support for College

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services, a program of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, provides quality individualized services to enhance and support people with disabilities to prepare for, obtain, or retain employment. The individual will work closely with a VR Counselor throughout the process. Through active participation in their rehabilitation, people with disabilities achieve a greater level of independence in their workplace and living environments. For a complete list of locations and contact information across the state, visit: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2636.htm> or 1-800-545-7763.

Indiana Institute on Disability and Community

The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, Indiana's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities, is committed to providing Hoosiers with disability-related information and services that touch the entire lifespan, from birth through older adulthood. Divisions of the institute include: Early Childhood Center, Center on Education and Lifelong Learning, Center on Community Living and Careers, Center on Aging and Community, Center for Disability Information and Referral, and Indiana Resource Center for Autism. Visit: <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/> or call (812) 855-6508

Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)

An individual age 18 or older who is not currently receiving benefits on their Social Security record and unable to work for a medical condition that is expected to last at least 12 months may apply for Social Security Disability Income. To find out more or apply, visit: www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program pays benefits to disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources. To find out more or apply online, visit: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/ssi.html>

Unemployment Assistance

If you are unemployed due to no fault of your own, you may be eligible for unemployment insurance. All claims for unemployment insurance benefits must be filed through Uplink, the online filing system. To file a claim for unemployment insurance go to: <http://www.in.gov/dwd/2362.htm>

5. DOCUMENTS (BMV, Birth Certificate, and SS) AND BANKING

Birth Certificate

A birth certificate is one of the most important legal documents used to establish identity. It shows who you are, when you were born, and where you were born. A birth certificate is required for many things during a person's life, such as: • getting a Social Security card • obtaining a driver's license • applying for a passport • enrolling a child in school. You will need certified copies that are printed on special paper that cannot be easily duplicated. If you were born in Indiana, you may obtain a copy of your birth certificate by visiting the following site, completing the application, and paying the required fee:

<http://www.in.gov/isdh/25993.htm>

Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) - Driver's License and ID Card

Go to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) to take a driver's test, obtain a driver's license or identification card. An individual may obtain a identification card which is useful in case of an emergency. You do not need to be age 16 or older to obtain an ID card.

Call toll-free: **1- 888-692-6841** or visit online for a complete list of branches:

www.dmv.com/in/indiana/dmv-office

Social Security Card

You need a Social Security number to get a job, collect Social Security benefits, and get some other government services. But you don't often need to show your Social Security card. Do not carry your card with you. Keep it in a safe place with your other important papers. To apply for a new card, visit the following web address: <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>

To locate a Social Security Office near you, visit: www.socialsecurityofficelocations.com/state/IN.html

Banking – Checking Account/Debit Card

As an adult, you are expected to pay bills through cash, check, debit, or credit. Call or go to a local bank to discuss which documents are required to open a checking/debit account. Once you have the necessary documents (such as a birth certificate and/or social security card) and the amount of money needed to open an account, you will be allowed to open an account. To learn how to stay on top of your budget, avoid bounced checks, overdraft fees, and to balance your checking account, go to:

www.daveramsey.com/blog/how-to-balance-your-checking-account/

Credit Cards - You may be sent mail with credit card offers once you are age 18. BEWARE!!! You are expected to pay back the money and at a high percentage rate. This means, over time, you pay much more money back to the credit card company than you borrowed. Many adults get into financial trouble by using credit cards.

6. LEGAL

Disability Legal Services of Indiana, Inc.

Disability Legal Services of Indiana, Inc. (DLSI) is a non-profit corporation offering free and low-cost legal services to children and adults with disabilities in Indiana. DLSI was formed in response to a concern over the lack of affordable legal representation for adults and children with disabilities in Indiana, particularly in the area of education law. Location: 5954 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46220
<http://disabilitylegalservicesindiana.org/> (317) 426-7733

Guardianship

Understanding types of guardianship is essential if you have a child or adult with special needs. At age 18, an individual has rights over their own medical, education, finances, and living arrangements unless they have a legal guardian. To explore types of guardianship and steps in establishing guardianship, view an 18-minute video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXFW4AjOPfw&list=PL6E60B4F17E2E09BE&index=3>

There are also frequently asked questions and tips at the same web address related to guardianship. You may contact **Arc of Indiana** and ask to speak with a Family Advocate who will help you through the process of obtaining guardianship. Call the Arc of Indiana at (317) 977-2375. **Family Voices Indiana** would also be able to assist with the process of obtaining guardianship (844) 323-4636.

Adult Guardianship

The Indiana Adult Guardianship Services Project exists to improve the quality and availability of adult guardianship services for Hoosiers who are age 18 and older and have been determined to be incapable of handling their own personal and/or financial affairs. The purpose of the project is to build a framework of community-base adult guardianship programs across the state.

<https://www.arcind.org/future-planning/guardianship/>

Indiana Legal Services (ILS)

Indiana Legal Services (ILS) is a nonprofit law firm that provides free civil legal assistance to eligible low-income people throughout Indiana. ILS helps clients who are faced with legal problems that harm their ability to have such basics as food, shelter, income, medical care, or government benefits. Search for a pro bono (free legal assistance) attorney office at

http://www.indianalegalservices.org/search-help/?f%5b0%5d=im_field_category%3A158

Coalition for Court Access

The Coalition for Court Access was created to provide civil legal aid to those with limited financial resources. The Coalition includes judges, law school representatives, civil legal aid and pro bono providers, and Indiana State Bar Association and Foundation members.

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/iocs/3149.htm>

Indiana State Guardianship Association

The Indiana State Guardianship Association was organized to strengthen guardianship and related services to people who are elderly, have mental illness, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and other incapacitating disabilities. <http://www.indianaguardian.org/>

7. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Behavioral/mental health agencies exist to help individuals build healthy relationships, make good life choices, and handle the ups and downs of life. To locate providers near you, visit:

www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/2578.htm

8. HEALTH AND CHILDCARE

Health Coverage

The Affordable Care Act puts consumers back in charge of their health care. Under the law, a new “Patient’s Bill of Rights” gives the American people the stability and flexibility they need to make informed choices about their health. For an application for health coverage, apply online:

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration <http://www.ifcem.com> or **1-800-318-2596**.

Healthy Indiana Plan

The Healthy Indiana Plan (or “HIP 2.0”) is an affordable health insurance program from the State of Indiana for uninsured adult Hoosiers. The Healthy Indiana Plan pays for medical expenses and provides incentives for members to be more health conscious. The Healthy Indiana Plan provides coverage for qualified low-income Hoosiers ages 19 to 64, who are interested in participating in a low-cost, consumer-driven health care program. Hoosiers with incomes of up to \$16,436.81 annually for an individual, \$22,246.25 for a couple or \$33,865.13 for a family of four are generally eligible to participate in the Healthy Indiana Plan. <http://www.hip.in.gov> or **1-877-438-4479**

Hoosier Healthwise

Hoosier Healthwise is a health care program for low-income parents/caretakers, pregnant women, and children. The program covers medical care like doctor visits, prescription medicine, mental health care, dental care, hospitalizations, surgeries, and family planning at little or no cost to the member or the member's family. To find more information:

member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs/hoosier-healthwise.aspx

or **(317) 630-2831**

Children’s Bureau, Inc. – Child Care and More

The Children’s Bureau offers a variety of supports and programs for families with children age 0-17. The Children’s Bureau helps families discover and connect with local community supports and offers a children’s shelter, Forever Fathers, and in-home parent guidance. To find out if you qualify for the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) which helps low-income families obtain child care so the parent(s) can work or attend school visit:

<http://www.childrens-bureau.org/what-we-do/child-care-development-fund-ccdf>

or **1-866-431-4451** or **(317) 634-5050**

9. WELFARE

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) provides assistance to low-income families by helping recipients get back on their feet, find work and ultimately, achieve self-sufficiency and independence from welfare. To see if you qualify and apply, go to: www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/2684.htm

IMPACT (Job Training)

Indiana Manpower and Comprehensive Training (IMPACT) provides services designed to help recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-food assistance) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) achieve economic self-sufficiency through education, training, job search, and job placement activities. Visit the following site to learn more: <http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/2682.htm>

10. FOOD ASSISTANCE

Having a hard time providing food for yourself and/or your family, consider these programs:

Food Assistance – SNAP and Cash Assistance

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the Food Stamps Program, is a federal program that provides low-income and no-income Americans and qualified non-citizens monthly financial aid to purchase food. SNAP eligibility is determined by household size, income, resources, benefits (e.g. Social Security benefits, unemployment). Go to the following site to apply for SNAP or cash assistance: Indiana Family and Social Services Administration <http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/2691.htm> or <http://www.fns.usda.gov>

Food Assistance – Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) aims to safeguard the health of low-income women, infants and children aged 5 and below by providing nutritious food, nutrition education and health care referrals. Visit the following site to apply for WIC: www.in.gov/isdh/19691.htm or www.fns.usda.gov

Food Assistance – Gleaners Food Bank

Gleaners Food bank of Indiana offers food to a number of counties in Indiana. Visit: <http://www.gleaners.org/programs/> or 1-800-944-9166

Food Assistance – Hunger Hotline

The National Hunger Hotline will refer people to food pantries and government programs Monday – Friday 7:00 A.M. – 10:00 P.M. Call: 1-866-348-6479 or 1-877-842-6273

Local Churches

Churches in your area may also be able to assist with food and clothing through special food pantries and clothes closet programs. Call the church office to inquire. To find a list of local churches or food banks in your area, you may dial 2-1-1.

11. HOUSING AND ENERGY

Housing - Section 8

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program in Indiana provides monthly rental assistance and subsidy payments to private landlords. Payments are made on behalf of participants in the program. Vouchers are used so families may lease decent, safe, and sanitary housing units or apartments in private rental market. Individuals need to apply at a local Housing Authority office. For a list of local Housing Authority offices visit: www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/section_8_housing_indiana.html

Energy Assistance – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is an Indiana program designed to assist low-income customers with winter heating bills. Eligibility is based solely on income and is available to eligible Hoosiers during the winter months until funds run out. Applications for this program are processed through community action agencies throughout Indiana. For a list of community action agencies visit: <http://www.duke-energy.com/home/billing/special-assistance> or 1-800-521-2232

Energy Assistance – Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Indiana's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides residential energy conservation services to low-income citizens of Indiana. Funding comes from Federal sources and is allocated to Community Action Agencies (CAA) to provide services in each of Indiana's 92 counties. The CAAs use their own crews or private contractors to provide comprehensive energy conservation services. A thorough evaluation of the structure, including the safe and efficient operation of the furnace and water heater, is included in the treatment of each home. Learn more:

<http://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/1851>

or 317-232-7777