



# Age Appropriate Transition Assessment

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Transition Tips

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## Types of Assessments

Most of us are familiar with the IDEA 2004 Section 300.320b transition requirements that the Individual Education Plan (IEP) must include “Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills”. Simon and Shove (2016) emphasize that a variety of assessment types be included as part of a comprehensive transition assessment.

### Assessment could include:

- Qualitative assessments: interviews with parents, teachers, counselors, coaches, and the student himself/herself
- Informal assessments: interest inventories, open-ended questionnaires, direct observations, environmental analysis, and curriculum-based assessments
- Formal assessments: criterion or norm-referenced tests or batteries, adaptive behavior/daily living skills assessments, general and specific aptitude tests, interest inventories, intelligence tests, employability tests, self-determination assessments, and transition planning inventories

An effective individualized transition plan should be based on a comprehensive transition assessment to determine short and long term goals based on the student’s strengths, interests, and preferences. When determining what type of assessment to use, keep in mind the nature of the student’s disability, his or her post school goals or ambitions, and types of available community opportunities.

## Resources

There are many types of assessments available. Some resources include:

1. The [Assessment Information Guide](#) from Tennessee Works. This information guide describes eleven different assessments with information regarding what transition areas are covered, where to download or complete the assessment, what the cost is, who the respondents are, the languages available, and the “pros” of each.
2. The National Technical Center on Secondary Transition provides a comprehensive [Age-Appropriate Transition Assessment Toolkit](#) for educators that includes information on how to select and conduct transition assessments, sample instruments, an implementation timeline, and other useful resources.

3. The [Ohio Age Appropriate Transition Assessment Library](#) is a website for educators that contains links to both formal and informal assessments in the these categories: general, postsecondary goals, health/medical, and additional resources.
4. [The Secondary School Success Checklist](#) (SSSC) is a tool that can be used by educators, students, families, and other school personnel to help identify and prioritize goals that will lead to positive post-school outcomes. Subdomains of this checklist include organization, problem-solving and goal setting, conversation skills, recognizing emotions, self-regulation, flexibility, and self-management among others.

### References:

Simon, A., and Shove, S.D. (2016, July). *Which Bridges to Cross and Which to Burn: Using Assessment Data to Create Effective Plans for Adulthood*. Presented at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Autism Society National Conference. New Orleans, LA.

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