

State Services for the Blind

Sophomore Year of Transition Timeline

Sophomore Year Tasks

- **August**
 - Actively participate in your IEP transition planning with your case manager and IEP team.
 - Add to your transition portfolio.

- **September**
 - Invite SSB counselor and other community partners to annual IEP meeting.
 - Take courses to prepare you for college/training.
 - Complete an interest inventory, a prevocational evaluation, and an independent living evaluation. Review the results with a guidance counselor, or special education teacher, or SSB counselor to identify interests, aptitudes, values and opportunities related to the career in you are interested in.
 - Start reading about majors and careers. Conduct informational interviews with people who do jobs that look interesting to you.

- **October**

- Add to your understanding and use of learning strategies to help you access the same course work as your peers.
- Register and take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) in the fall. Consider using testing accommodations if needed.
- Speak with college/training program representatives that visit your high school and at college/career fairs.

- **November**

- Locate at least one volunteer opportunity that involves a regular commitment for a specified reason.
- Develop transportation / mobility strategies: independent travel skills, public transportation or community busses such as Metro Mobility.
- Increase your adjustment to blindness skills—learn about independent life skills. For example, learn about arranging transportation, money handling, cooking, cleaning, and laundry so you are ready for dorm life. Ask your parents to work with you at home.

- **December**

- Participate in extracurricular activities, hobbies and work experiences.
- Develop a tentative list of colleges to investigate. Obtain catalogs from college admission offices, and contact colleges' student support service office to determine their experience with BVI students.
- Discuss planning summer enrichment activities with SSB counselor and your teachers.

- **January**

- Meet with your career or guidance counselor to discuss postsecondary education/training and their requirements.
- Add to your transition portfolio.

- **February**

- Learn how to utilize a reader.

- **March**

- Talk with your Teacher of the Blind and Visually Impaired (TBVI) and learn how to order textbooks. Assist in this process.

- **April**

- Learn about differences between high school and college expectations: Family Connect:
<http://www.familyconnect.org/parentsitewhome.aspx>

- **May**

- Meet with your SSB counselor to discuss your college plans. Include relevant goals in your annual IEP.
- Add to your transition portfolio.

- **Summer**

- Strengthen your academic skills in reading, math, and written language.
- Visit college campuses and meet with a Disability Services Specialist.
- Continue to save for college/training programs and investigate funding sources.