

What Are YOU Going To Be?



1. **It is never too early to start deciding what kind of job you want to do after you finish school** - you can always change your mind later.
2. **There are programs out there that can help you** in planning for your future while you are still in high school.
3. Contact the **Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)** toll-free at **800-843-6154** (or TTY **800- 447-6404**). DRS can help guide you in many ways as you prepare for work or college:
 - Career planning and counseling
 - Job training (job coaches)
 - Funding for college when it leads to employment
 - On-site support, including transportation
 - Funding for a personal assistant
4. **STEP is a program that your school district might have if you have an IEP.** This program can help you to learn job skills and get job training in your home town.
5. **If you are interested in vocational training** you may find these resources helpful:
 - Vocational and career training programs through your high school
 - Vocational Schools Database: http://www.rwm.org/rwm/tf_ill.html
4. **Illinois WorkNet Centers**, www.illinoisworknet.com, can help you with:
 - Writing resumes, learning to interview, job search, and disability resources
5. Ask your school counselor, health care provider, DRS high school liaison, your DSCC Care Coordination Team, friends and others for help finding and accessing vocational opportunities in your community.
6. **On the other side of the page is a list of important steps to think about before leaving high school.**

Before Leaving High School - Important Steps in Planning for Transition

- **Figure out what your learning style is and what helps you learn best.** Do you learn best by seeing, hearing or hands-on?
- **Know your strengths and weaknesses.**
- **Explore career interests and skills.**
- **Take classes to learn more about your areas of interest and that match your career interests.** This could include vocational classes and training.
- **Attend your transition IEP (Individualized Educational Program) and be ready to answer these questions:**
 - Would you like to go to college or tech school?
 - What would you like to study?
 - If you don't want to go on to college, what do you plan to do after high school?
 - Where do you want to work? Do you have the skills it will take to work there?
 - Where will you live after high school?
 - What do you like to do for fun when you are not in school?
- **Be able to explain your disability or health condition and know what supports you may need to live and work in a place of your choice.**
- **Check out assistive technology tools that could help you** on your job, or to do things in the community.
- **Develop interview skills.**



We're here to help. To learn more about UIC- Specialized Care for Children's programs and services, check out our website at:

dsc.c.uic.edu or like us on  facebook.com/dsc.c.uic.edu