

EASING into SECONDARY TRANSITION: A Comprehensive Guide to Resources and Services in Connecticut

Welcome to Easing Into Secondary Transition: A Comprehensive Guide to Resources and Services in Connecticut. This publication is a collaborative effort between the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), the CT State Department of Education (CSDE), the Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs), the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center (CPAC), the State Education Resource Center (SERC), Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB), the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). The intent of this guide is to provide information about professional development opportunities related to secondary transition as well as resources and services available statewide. These opportunities are wonderful resources for districts looking to improve and enhance secondary transition services. This guide captures a sampling of the available statewide offerings related to secondary education and adult services. **Please contact the individuals listed for more specific information and to discuss customized services to address your district's needs.**

Agency	Contact	Phone #	E-mail	Website
 ACES Area Cooperative Educational Services -Regional Educational Service Center	Vanessa Taragowski <i>Director of Pupil Services</i>	203-498-6849	vtaragowski@aces.org	www.aces.org
 BESB Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind -State Agency	Barry Rita <i>Educational Projects Coordinator</i>	860-602-4069	barry.rita@ct.gov	www.ct.gov/besb
 BRS Bureau of Rehabilitation Services -State Agency	Patti Clay <i>Education Consultant</i>	860-424-4977	patti.clay@ct.gov	www.ct.gov/brs www.connect-ability.org
 CES Cooperative Educational Services -Regional Educational Service Center	Mike Regan <i>Director of Special Education</i>	203-365-8800	reganm@ces.k12.ct.us	www.ces.k12.ct.us
 CPAC-CT Parent Advocacy Center -Statewide Services	Beth Reel <i>Transition Coordinator</i>	800-445-2722	breel@cpacinc.org	www.cpacinc.org
 CREC Capitol Region Education Council -Regional Educational Service Center	Liz Battaglia <i>Educational Specialist</i>	203-668-2074	ebattaglia@crec.org	www.crec.org
 CSDE CT State Department of Education -State Agency	Patricia L. Anderson <i>Consultant</i>	860-713-6923	patricia.anderson@ct.gov	www.sde.ct.gov
 DDS Department of Developmental Services -State Agency	Robin Wood <i>Director of Family Support Strategies and Advocacy</i>	860-418-6035	robin.wood@ct.gov	www.ct.gov/dds
 DMHAS Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services -State Agency	Linda Guillorn <i>Employment Program Manager</i> Scott Kupis <i>Special Education Director</i>	860-418 6732 860-262-7009	linda.guillorn@ct.gov scott.kupis@ct.gov	www.ct.gov/dmhas
 EASTCONN -Regional Educational Service Center	Denise Resonina <i>Program Director</i>	860-576-9714	dresonina@eastconn.org	www.eastconn.org
 EDUCATION CONNECTION -Regional Educational Service Center	Paul Calaluce <i>Consultant for SE Services</i>	860-567-0863	calaluce@educationconnection.org	www.educationconnection.org
 LEARN -Regional Educational Service Center	Lois Eldridge <i>Transition Coordinator</i>	860-434-4800 ext. 182	leldridge@learn.k12.ct.us	www.learn.k12.ct.us
 SERC-State Education Resource Center -Statewide Services	Jo-Ellen D. Wickwire <i>Consultant</i>	860-632-1485 ext. 384	wickwire@ctserc.org	www.ctserc.org

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Introduction

Connecticut has a wealth of resources and services that can assist all students to be college and career ready when they exit high school. *EASING into SECONDARY TRANSITION: A Comprehensive Guide to Resources and Services in Connecticut* is an opportunity for educators, students and families throughout Connecticut to identify and access these secondary transition planning resources.

The Guide has two sections of information:

The **first** section of the Guide provides the user with a Contact Information Sheet that includes names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and websites for each Agency. The Agency websites are hyperlinked for easy access. The designated contacts can provide the user with additional information regarding secondary transition resources and services offered by that agency. They can also provide information on customized services and supports and additional services that may not be included in the Guide.

The **second** section of the Guide provides the user with a list of statewide secondary resources and services. Each agency is listed at the top of the page by an acronym that is hyperlinked for easy website access. The **Stars** in the column beneath each agency identify the specific transition-related resources and customized services, supports, and additional services they provide.

Using the Key at the top of the page, each topic is designated as the following:

- **S=Service**
- **T=Technical Assistance**
- **W=Workshop/PD**

Some of the listings have multiple codes because the agencies that provide the resource/service may use different formats. For more specific information, please contact the agency personnel listed on the Contact Information Sheet.

We hope you find *EASING into SECONDARY TRANSITION: A Comprehensive Guide to Resources and Services in Connecticut* a valuable tool as you navigate through secondary transition planning.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **What is a Regional Educational Service Center (RESC)?**
Every school district in Connecticut benefits from services provided by Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs). Through RESCs, school districts and the communities that surround them have access to high quality, cost-effective collaborative programs and initiatives.

Several RESCs run schools and programs, including magnet schools and schools for students with learning and developmental disabilities.

All RESCs support the instructional and operational components of Connecticut school districts. RESCs design and deliver community-based education, professional and curriculum development, strategic planning and human service programs. These RESC services and programs add to the economic well-being and quality of educational life throughout the state.

2. **What if the Agencies in my area do not offer a particular training or service?**

Contact the person at the agency and see if they can provide the same or similar service. The more calls they receive about a particular training or service, the more likely they might be able to provide it.

3. **May I attend a training that is offered by a Agency in another part of the state?**

Attendance at RESC events is determined on the local level. Certainly call or email the agency contact person and inquire if anyone is able to participate in the specific training or event.



