Assisting professionals with compliance and best practices in postsecondary transition services for students with disabilities
Region 4 Special Education Solutions offers professional development sessions designed to facilitate the inclusion of students with disabilities. Our sessions also can be customized and delivered as on-site trainings for districts and campuses.

OPEN ENROLLMENT
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The following courses will be held at the Region 4 McKinney Conference Center. Session and materials costs are partially funded through state and federal grants.

CTE and Special Education: Working Together
September 23, 2015 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Fee: $45 | Session ID: 1150725
Address requirements and issues for students in special education in the CTE classroom. Acquire the knowledge to understand the requirements for increased accountability for CTE as specified in the Carl D. Perkins Act, TEKS, and the transition planning requirements in IDEA. Participants will learn accommodations, modifications, and strategies for working with students with disabilities in the CTE classroom. If possible, a team that comprises at least one CTE and one special education teacher should attend.

Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy—The Key to Post High School Success
September 29, 2015 | Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. | Fee: $30 | Session ID: 1142368
Learn about the impact of self-determination and self-advocacy skills on student success after high school. Through provided activities and tools, participants will understand the various aspects of self-determination and self-advocacy and how to infuse them into the curriculum.

Transition: What You Need to Know
October 14, 2015 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Fee: $45 | Session ID: 1142404
Review legal requirements, age-appropriate transition assessments, and measurable goals. Participants will have the opportunity to apply knowledge gained through relevant activities.

Neurodiversity—Strength-Based Strategies to Help Students Succeed in School and Beyond
October 20, 2015 | Time: 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. | Fee: $45 | Session ID: 1150854
Challenge your beliefs about student learning. Acquire research-based tools to create strength-based learning environments that support inclusive practices and student academic proficiency. Explore strength-based strategies that target specific disabilities to increase academic achievement and promote college and career readiness. Implications for postsecondary transition will be addressed throughout.

18+ Network: Beginner
October 22, 2015 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Fee: No cost | Session ID: 1145877
January 21, 2016 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Fee: No cost | Session ID: 1145881
April 7, 2016 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Fee: No cost | Session ID: 1145325
This session is designed to meet the needs of educators who are new to 18+ services or who have worked in an 18+ program for less than 3 years. Participants will learn how to create an 18+ program in their district or charter school and how to improve an existing 18+ program. Topics covered will include strategies for 18+ services, administrative barriers to program improvement, scheduling, how to deal with support and transportation issues, how to partner with the community, and multiple other topics specific to services for students age 18–21.
18+ Network: Advanced
October 22, 2015    |    Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: No cost    |    Session ID: 1151450
January 21, 2016   |    Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: No cost    |    Session ID: 1151459
April 7, 2016      |    Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: No cost    |    Session ID: 1151462
Learn how to improve your existing 18+ program. This session is designed to provide information and training for participants who have worked in an 18+ program and/or have been the program administrator for 3 or more years. Training will be provided at an advanced level to address the information needs, administrative issues, and strategic planning for program improvement meant for experienced staff in adult services in districts. Basic, beginner-level information will not be provided.

Back to Basics: Practical Tips for Work-Based Learning
October 28, 2015    |    Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $30    |    Session ID: 1142803
Gain an understanding of the fundamentals of work-based learning/community-based vocational instruction, including applicable laws, marketing techniques, and practical tips.

Work-Based Learning: The Roles and Responsibilities of the VAC
October 28, 2015    |    Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $30    |    Session ID: 1142808
Learn about the roles and responsibilities of the vocational adjustment coordinator (VAC), including applicable laws, topics covered in VAC classes, techniques used, and VAC skills needed in class and when working with students. Participants will understand how VAC services fit into the work-based learning continuum. Through activities and handouts, participants will gain a better understanding of the expectations of the VAC. This session provides basic information and is focused on new VACs, but experienced VACs can benefit as well.

Leaving a Clear Trail
November 3, 2015    |    Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $45    |    Session ID: 1143594
Participate in an overview session to explore the relationship between state and district requirements for graduation, special education options, PEIMS coding, and the documentation needed to accurately reflect a student’s high school education. Examine course descriptions for special education and learn to code special education courses on the Academic Achievement Record (AAR). Participants will receive a handbook with relevant documents.

Transitioning from High School to College Training of Trainers
January 27, 2016    |    Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $30    |    Session ID: 1142816
Learn about students with disabilities transitioning from high school to college in this training-of-trainers presentation developed by the Secondary Transition/Post-School Results Network. Topics include why students should go to college, how college is different from high school, how students should choose a college, who will help students succeed, student preparation, and tuition. Participants will receive training materials and scripts during this session.

Postsecondary Goals, Annual Goals, and Assessments for Transition
January 27, 2016    |    Time: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $30    |    Session ID: 1142823
Review the basics of transition. Learn about transition assessments and developing postsecondary and annual transition goals with a focus on goals for students with moderate to severe disabilities.

Transition Planning to Meet the Unique Needs of Students with Autism
February 10, 2016   |    Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.    |    Fee: $45    |    Session ID: 1143589
Attend this session to learn how the unique needs of students with high-functioning and low-functioning autism impact the transition planning process. In this session, participants will 1) gain an understanding of both federal and state legislation relating to transition and autism, 2) explore strengths and needs of students with high-functioning and low-functioning autism, and 3) apply knowledge gained to practice transition planning for students with autism.
Transition to Community Integrated Employment for All Youth  
April 14, 2016 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Fee: $45 | Session ID: 1150717 
Imagine beginning with the vision that all youths will graduate with a paid job. How would that vision impact your planning for students with disabilities, especially youths whose disabilities significantly impact their daily lives? Customized employment, a strategy included in the most recent reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act, is an approach to employment that enables us to create and tailor employment that matches each young adult’s contributions and ideal conditions for success. Customized employment eliminates the need to compete for employment and removes many prerequisites that have traditionally kept people from the work force. This session will introduce individualized and creative strategies that promote access to paid community employment for all students with disabilities, even those in rural remote locations, and those students significantly impacted by disability.

Texas Transition Attaining Goals  
April 26, 2016 | Time: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Fee: $45 | Session ID: 1143743 
Review the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, the Texas Administrative Code and the Texas Education Code concerning postsecondary life for students receiving special education services in Texas. Participants will learn about the ARD process, current graduation option criteria for meeting the regular high school diploma requirements, postsecondary goals, and related issues.