

Turning 18 in Tennessee: What Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families Should Consider

A WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES AND PROFESSIONALS

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Age of Majority



Entitlement vs. Eligibility

Special Education

- Based on Need
- No waiting lists
- School coordinates services

Adult Services

- Most have specific eligibility criteria
- Waiting lists
- No single coordinator

Today's Overview



Medical Providers



Selective Services



Special steps for Military families



Look into
continued Military
Medical Benefits
coverage



Forms of Identification



Register to Vote



Open a Bank Account

Bank accounts can be individual or joint (with a parent, guardian, spouse, etc.)

If an individual applies for and receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a separate bank account is needed for these deposits.



Support Needs





Exiting High School

Transfer of Rights at Age 18



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



Medicaid (Health Insurance)



Medicaid Waivers

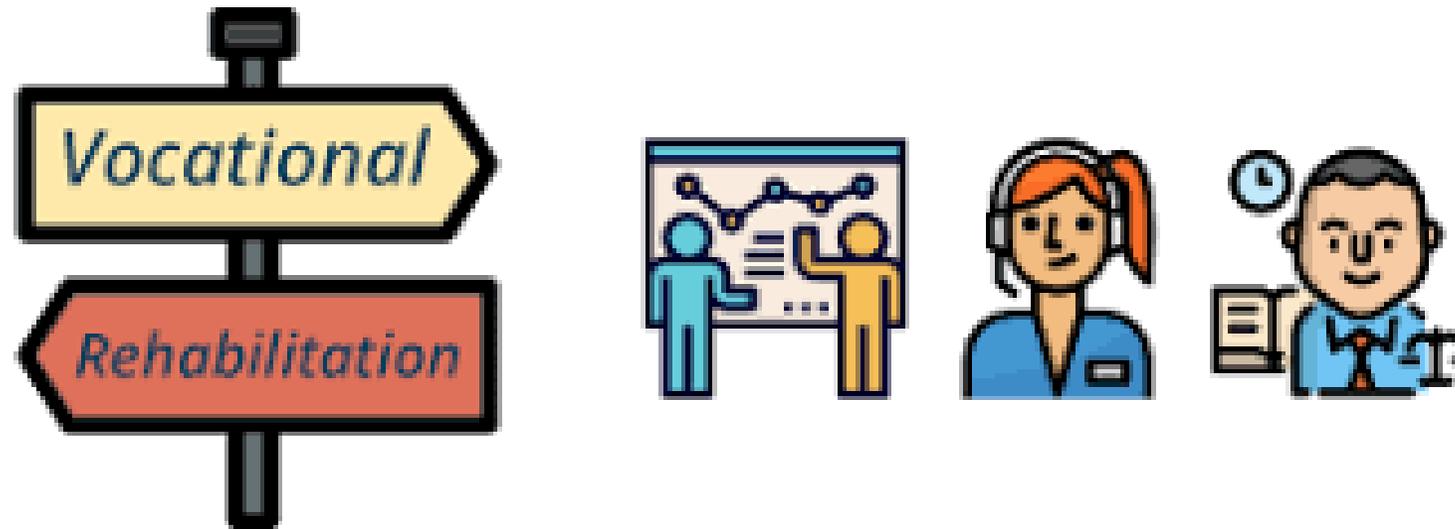


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ABLE Accounts



Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Supports



Independent Housing



Further Education



College Disability Services



Possible services:

- Accommodations
- Mentors
- Relaxation techniques/strategies
- Resources
- Team Support

Consult an Attorney

- ❑ Elder Rights or Special Needs Attorneys
- ❑ Protection and Advocacy Organization
- ❑ Find Special Needs Answers



Decision-Making Options

Supported decision-making

- Natural Supports
- Agreements

Power of Attorney

- Representative payees

Limited or Full conservatorship

Estate Planning

Talk to a qualified attorney about things such as:

- Special Needs Trusts
- Wills and trusts for you and your spouse
- Survivor Benefit Plan (for military families)



Letter of Intent



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Most Importantly





Thank You!



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