

Navigating the Transition Years for Individuals with ASD: Resources for entering the workforce and postsecondary education



Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support

Creates, supports, and delivers professional
development for career, technical and adult education
professionals across Illinois

ICSPS provides **technical assistance**, **develops
publications**, and **facilitates program improvement
strategies** for our partners as they relate to **college
transition, recruitment, retention**, and
completion—encouraging achievement of special
populations learners





ATTA Objectives

- Provide new and expanded autism resources for use as professional learning, technical assistance, and outreach
- Provide **resources** that are relevant and accessible for use by students transitioning to postsecondary, educators (both secondary and postsecondary), families, employers and community partners.
- Develop self-assessments for educators (both secondary and postsecondary), families, employers, community partners and students with autism to ensure equitable access in workplace/postsecondary transition.

Purpose...

Develop students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in transitioning successfully to postsecondary education and the workplace disabilities.

Before We Begin

- We often begin any autism related training with the assumption that the audience has limited knowledge about ASD
- The positive is that we try to take as much into consideration and give as much information as possible without being too overwhelming
- The negative is that those who do have a good understanding of ASD might feel like they are not being given enough new information
- Please ask questions, get clarification, and continue to stay in contact with us after today

How Common Is ASD?



Rapid changes in the rates of autism

1 IN 59

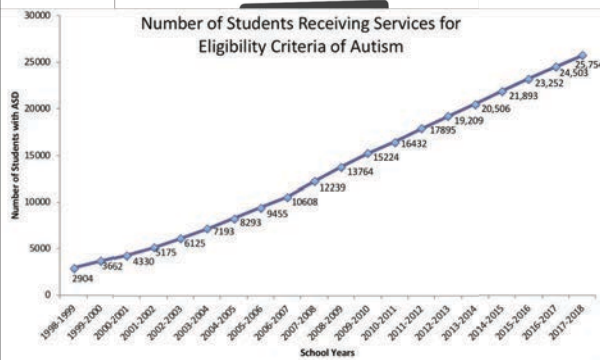
children have **Autism Spectrum Disorder**



4 x

more common in boys than girls

Identifying the need in



By year **2020**

up to **500,000³**

College Students with Autism

Recent Estimates

16,000¹ or 143,500² or 389,500³

1. Wei, Wagner, Hudson, Yu, & Javitz (2015)
2. Extrapolation from White, Ollendick, & Bray (2011)
3. Extrapolation from 2014 CDC data

Postsecondary Education



Presence of students with ASD is increasing on college campuses



Estimated 1 - 1.9% of the college population with an 80% incompleteness rate



Students are entering unprepared in areas of social-communication and executive functions

Others are seeing similar issues:

Challenges at Two Levels

Individuals

Social
Academic
Independent Living
Co-morbidities
Executive Functioning

Institutions

Identification / Disclosure
Coordination
Individualization
Resources/Efficiency

1 in 59: current prevalence rate
1 in 3: students with ASD who graduate college

Benefits of postsecondary education and training?

- A primary goal for some students with ASD is to develop skills for a career
- Education helps develop talent and interests that can contribute to career and employment success

Current Trends...

35% of young adults (ages 19-23) with ASD have **not had a job** or **received postgraduate education** after leaving high school.

Employment



Disability with highest level of unemployment



85% of adults are unemployed



50% of young adults between ages 21-26 have held a paid job outside of their household

Varied Employment Outcomes

Drexel Autism Institute National Autism Indicators Report 2017 for young adults receiving DD Services:

- Paid, community-based employment was the least common outcome for adults with ASD. Only 14% held a job for pay in the community.
- Over half (54%) participated in an unpaid activity in a facility (where most other workers had disabilities)

Employment in Young Adults with Autism Ages 21-25 -National Longitudinal Transition Study 2:



Image Source: Postsecondary Employment Experiences Among Young Adults With an Autism Spectrum Disorder
Anne M. Rice, Paul T. Shattuck, Benjamin P. Cooper, Kristy A. Anderson, Mary Wagner, Sarah C. Norwood



AUTISM TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

The Autism Training and Technical Assistance Project (ATTA) seeks to develop and present resources that assist individuals with Autism in their transition from secondary education to postsecondary education or employment.

The ATTA also seeks to provide training and support to important stakeholders as they work to provide an equitable experience for individuals with autism.

SECONDARY



STUDENTS / YOUNG ADULTS


POSTSECONDARY


COMMUNITIES


FAMILIES


EMPLOYERS

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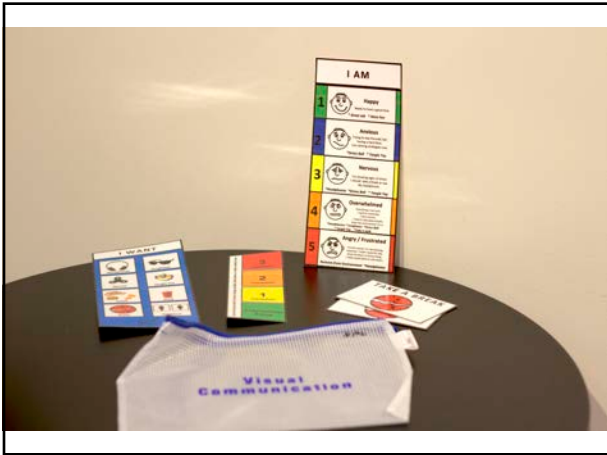


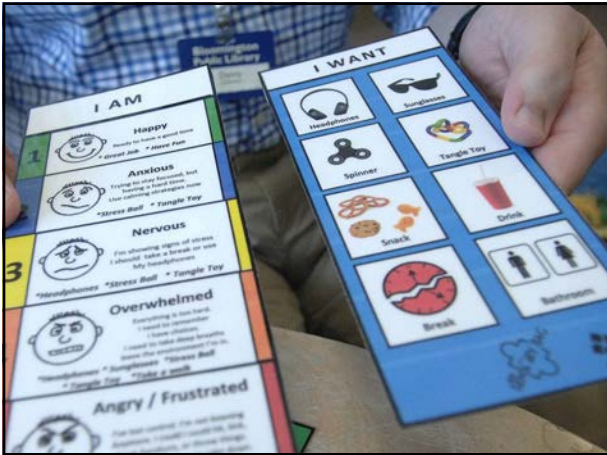
Autism McLean: Sensory bags

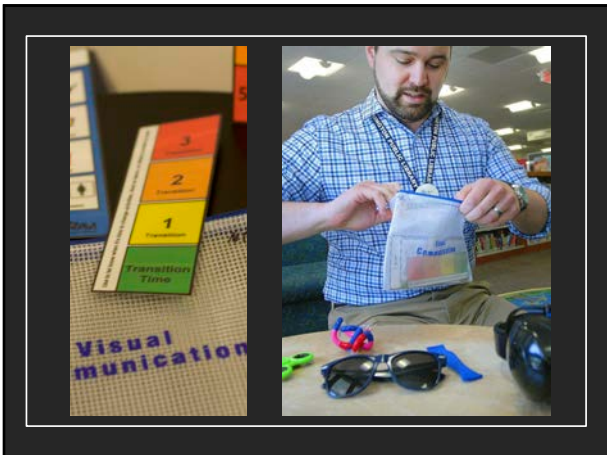
This Sensory Bag and the items enclosed are being provided for emergency and enhance your experience in this community.

If you find items broken or missing, please contact us at:
sensorybags@autismmclean.org

Thank you for helping create an Autism Friendly Community
www.autismmclean.org
www.autismfriendly.org









What questions do you have?



Thank you.

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