

Post-School Outcomes Survey – Students needed to rate special education services in Connecticut!

The Connecticut State Department of Education hopes students will help their high schools improve secondary transition services in Connecticut by participating in the *Post-School Outcomes Survey*. The purpose of this survey is to understand what types of activities each student with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) did during their first year after leaving school such as attending college or a training program, working or getting services from a state agency. The survey results will be used for planning future transition services, interventions, technical assistance, professional development and monitoring activities.

The success of the survey depends on each student who has left high school taking time to reply. Students should expect to receive their personal copy of the *Post-School Outcomes Survey* within one year after leaving school. **Participation is a unique opportunity for a student's experience to have direct influence on the services and activities that will be available to other students in the future.** Each student's response WILL make a difference !

Description:

The *Post-School Outcomes Survey* consists of simple questions covering employment, further education and training, support from applicable state agencies and life in general after high school.

Students who received special education services from a Connecticut public school district or were outplaced during high school by a district will be invited to participate in this brief survey within one year after graduating or leaving school. Parents or guardians can assist students with completing and returning the survey as necessary.

The *Post-School Outcomes Survey* will be mailed to the address on record with a student's school district one year after leaving school. To ensure receipt of the *Post-School Outcomes Survey*, students or families should **notify the district if there is an address change** for an eligible student effective one year after leaving school.

Confidentiality:

All surveys are handled with total confidentiality. The survey is administered by University of Connecticut (UConn) using questions designed by other students and teachers and authorized by the State Department of Education.

Background:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA 2004, initiated national data collection at the state level to understand the effectiveness of secondary education and transition services for students with an IEP. Since 2000 the Connecticut State Department of Education has done a survey of students who have exited special education every two years. Beginning with school year 2007-2008, the State Department of Education is sending the *Post-School Outcomes Survey* annually to reach students one year after they exit special education and secondary school. For your review, a sample copy of the survey may be found at: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=322094#indicators>. Become familiar with it in preparation for giving us feedback on how well your high school prepared you for adult life!

For more information, see www.sde.ct.gov (special education/SPP-APR/Indicator #14 – Post-School Outcomes); or contact **Dr. Patricia Anderson** at patricia.anderson@ct.gov, 860-713-6923 or **Jay Brown** at jay.brown@ct.gov, 860-713-6918.