

Program Overview

The 18 – 21 Transition Academy is designed for young adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) who are still eligible for school district services and ready for their next chapter. By combining hands-on learning, career exploration, and social skill development, this program prepares students with the tools and confidence they need to lead more independent, connected, and fulfilling lives.

Students work on skills that support daily living, self-advocacy, and long-term success. With guidance from experienced staff and support from school districts, each student builds on their strengths while exploring new possibilities.

Academic Skills

- Building practical skills for real-world success, including consumer math, employment-related vocabulary, and essential workplace technology skills

Employment/Vocational Skills Development

- Students engage in community and career readiness experiences designed to prepare them for future employment opportunities
- Structured volunteer experiences and supported internship placements

Social Skills & Relationship Building

- Develop communication, collaboration, and interpersonal skills through peer interaction and community engagement
- Self-awareness training and developing self-confidence

Independent Daily Living Skills

- Training in daily routines, personal wellness, and independent living

Expected Outcomes

- Prepared for employment, education, or supported day programs, like the Journey21 Life Enrichment Program
- Student increases independence at home or in supported living
- Student actively participates in community life
- Smooth transfer from school-based services to adult services



LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Students participate in community outings, service projects, and real-world experiences that build confidence and allow them to apply their learning in meaningful ways. These activities make education engaging and enjoyable while helping students feel connected to their community.



18-21 Transition Academy

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate from high school before age 21
- OR
- Student is entering their 5th or 6th year of high school with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and district approval.
 - Journey21 staff implements each student's IEP collaborating closely with the school's case manager to ensure all goals are successfully met.

SCHEDULE

The Transition Academy follows a traditional semester schedule and runs Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

STUDENT CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION



Craig Heinze, Transition Academy Instructor, proudly giving Transition Academy graduate, Mitchell, his certificate.

“My son is an entirely different person after joining Journey21’s 18-21 Transition Academy.

He is more confident, conversational, and willing to try new things (activities, foods, etc.) He is happier and calmer than ever before. We have NOT had ONE meltdown since joining Journey21. I’m not sure how better to say it than Journey21 changed our lives.”

- Parent of Student



INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

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**APPLY TODAY!
SCAN QR CODE**

