

# Backwards Planning

## What is the plan for my student after graduation?

Although graduation may seem distant, there is always time to begin thinking about the future and different career pathways. Start exploring options and ideas now. We can assist and support you in reaching those goals!



### START WITH THE END GOAL

- Identify the outcome
- Write a list of steps and resources
- Set a timeframe for each step
- Combine steps into manageable groups
- Create an outline to begin working on the plan!

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Can my student's plan change?

**A:** Yes, life happens and we can discuss changes as they occur and are needed.

**Q:** My student is 16, is it too late to start?

**A:** No, we can work with your family to assist with future planning. The earlier we start the conversations, the better!

## Overview

### Start Where You Want to "End"

Transition from school to adult life is an important time for all youth. Backwards Planning is a process used to support a student's development through this transition. Begin the conversation with the vision or goals for the student's future adult life, including the skills, knowledge, and resources that may be needed.

Backwards Planning is an informal process. It is meant to be flexible. Goals and plans can and will change throughout the student's journey into adulthood.

## Need to Know

- Keep the end goal in mind.
  - What do you want to accomplish?
  - Why is it important?
  - Is it realistic?
- Start early.
- Identify the student's skills, knowledge, and interests related to the desired goals.
- Multiple people and plans may be involved.
  - Involve Community Supports when available.
  - Check to see if other Resources are available.

Backwards Planning can provide confidence as you move forward toward achieving your goal!

**If you have questions about transition services, contact your student's Transition Coordinator.**

CCS Office of Accelerated and Extended Learning: [ccsoh.us/domain/186](https://ccsoh.us/domain/186)  
CCS Transition Services: [ccsoh.us/Page/1226](https://ccsoh.us/Page/1226)

