

What is the study about?

We want to **better understand how special education staff discuss transition planning and transfer-of-rights with students with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disability (IDD) and their parents.** We will interview “triads,” or groups of 3 people separately: students, parents, and special education staff. We want to know what factors impact how special education staff discuss transition planning and address transfer-of-rights conversations among students and their parents.

IDD is defined as differences that are usually present at birth and that uniquely affect the trajectory of the individual’s physical, intellectual, and/or emotional development. Many of these conditions affect multiple body parts or systems.

Who is conducting the study?

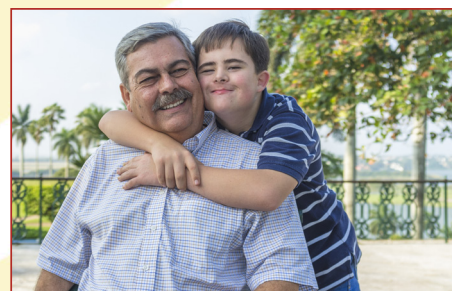
- » The Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston
- » Massachusetts Advocates Standing Strong (MASS)
- » Self-Advocacy Association of New York State (SANYS)

Who can participate?

Parents of students with IDD ages 18-22 who attended high school in Massachusetts. We will ask you to reflect on your experience with transition planning and transfer-of-rights conversations. We will also interview your child and the special education professional you worked with.

Special education and transition professionals from Massachusetts who work in high schools that follow the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) and who work with students with IDD ages 18-22. We will ask you to reflect on transition planning (including alternatives to guardianship, guardianship, transfer of rights) and having transfer-of-rights conversations. We will also interview students and parents with whom you have worked.

Students with an intellectual and/or developmental disability between 18-22 years old. Must have an IEP and be in high school or graduated from high school in Massachusetts.



How to participate?

[Take the screening survey here to see if you qualify for the study.](#)

You can also contact Daria Domin at: daria.domin@umb.edu or at 617-287-4277.

Interviews will **take place on Zoom** and will last 45-60 minutes.

Everyone interviewed will receive a gift card.



UMass
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