"iTransition: It's all about me!" A Free, Online Postsecondary Curriculum

Presenter:

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Program Abstract:

iTransition is a series of four highly interactive e-Learning transition modules created to assist students with their successful transition from high school to college. These modules were designed for deaf and hard of hearing students, ages 14 through adult, but are also applicable to students with other disabilities. This presentation will give participants an overview of the iTransition curriculum and access to learning objectives, lesson plans, and resource materials for each unit.

PEPNet's *iTransition* is a free, online curriculum that helps students learn more about themselves, their career goals, and postsecondary education. Designed for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, this training is also applicable to students with other disabilities.

Objectives:

- 1. Participants will learn how to access PEPNet's iTransition curriculum, teacher supports, and teaching guides online and how to use these resources with their students.
- 2. Participants will learn the teaching objectives and lesson components in each of the four trainings and how to empower students during the transition planning process.

Teachers can learn how to help their students:

- Match career options with interests, personality, and skills
- Understand the range of postsecondary educational options available
- Understand differences between high school and college
- Become familiar with a college campus and how to find resources on campus

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- Increase time management, study skills, and goal setting
- Work with the disability services offices on a postsecondary campus
- o Create an online transition portfolio

Session Description:

iTransition is a series of four transition modules created by PEPNet to assist middle school, high school, and first-year college students with their successful transition from high school to college or work. This overview presentation will demonstrate how professionals can use this curriculum to help students create an online transition portfolio, understand postsecondary options, assist with career planning, gain knowledge about the disability service providers on a college campus and begin to develop the self-advocacy skills needed to be successful in a postsecondary setting.

Career Interests and Education Choices: It's My Plan!

Through self-assessment activities, students will learn about their interests, personalities, and skills and how to match those characteristics to career options. Activities guide students to explore different college and career training choices and create a timeline for postsecondary planning. The lessons are further enhanced with signed video clips. At the conclusion of each lesson, a personalized summary is generated and can be used in transition planning.

First Year College Success: Be the One!

Students will experience a four-day "campus orientation" at fictional State College. They will visit different buildings and services on campus and complete a variety of activities. As they explore the campus, they will learn more about the expectations and challenges of college life.

Essential Skills for College Living: It's My Life!

Using three student guides as examples, students will improve skills in time management, studying, goal setting, and working with postsecondary disability service providers. Examples of deaf and hard-of-hearing students in different types of college settings demonstrate diverse ways to solve problems, identify resources, and strategize for success in college.

eFolio: My Online Portfolio!

Students can register here for a free online portfolio. They will use their eFolio site to keep track of career goals and interests, school and community activities, skills, resumes, and college planning. This dynamic tool also allows students to add documents, images, audio, video, and links, to enhance their online transition plan.

PEPNet is the national collaboration of four regional centers that assist educational institutions in more effectively addressing the postsecondary, vocational, technical, continuing, and adult education needs of individuals with deafness, including those who are deaf with co-occurring disabilities. Each Center provides technical assistance and dissemination activities, personnel development activities, and technology use activities. The Centers are supported by contracts with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and Office of Special Education Programs. For more information or to access the iTransition curriculum, go to the PEPNet website at www.pepnet.org.