

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

Version 2

Education

A Guide for First Nations

Child/Youth Workers



Assessment – Education

Background: Assessing a youth on their readiness to transition out of care and to adulthood starts with looking at various skills or abilities that he/she may have gathered knowledge on and building on that knowledge.

This will help you, the worker, to focus on skills or abilities the youth needs to move towards a successful transition. This form shows where the youth is currently at and is a guide to topics that will help the youth in their goal setting and planning.

NOTE: This form is a conversational tool.

Column 1: The Assessment column is for you to record the level of information the youth seems to have on that objective.

Column 2: The Objectives column describes the subject knowledge the youth is assessed on in the first column.

Column 3: This column has suggestions for conversations and useful activities.

Column 4: This column shows you where to find more information in the book.

Column 5: This space is for notes and the dates you worked with the youth on the objective. You may want to write down specific information or activities the youth may need to move forward.

Please use the following codes below to support your assessment of specific skills or abilities the youth has knowledge on.

E = Exceptional	Youth has e xceptional knowledge on this specific skill.
G = Good	Youth has a g ood understanding of the skill but still needs additional assistance to build up confidence to master the knowledge.
A = Assistance	Youth has little to no knowledge of this skill and needs a ssistance before transitioning out of care.
D = Don't Know	To indicate that you d on't know if the youth can do this skill based on no information shared up to this point.

EDUCATION ASSESSMENT FORM

Assessment	Objectives	How to work with the youth to get there	# in Manual	Notes/Dates/Action
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth indicates they have thought about potential goals.	You can have a conversation about the youth's educational goals	2	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can identify one or more reasons education can benefit their future goals.	You can have a conversation about how the youth feels about the importance of education, and discuss how making the choice to get an education could benefit them.	2.2	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can name at least one potential career choice that might interest them.	With the youth, brainstorm ideas about what kind of careers they may have thought about already and explore the ideas of different options that might be interesting for them.	2.3	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can recognize one or more types of short certificate programs that they could participate in.	You can have a conversation about the types of short certificate programs that have been offered in your community and brainstorm which ones they feel could be most useful.	3	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can discuss some of their	Having a conversation about other options for completing their	4	

	educational challenges and ideas to deal with them.	education could be helpful.		
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can give one or more examples of a trade	You could go online with the youth and check out all the different occupations that start with apprenticeships.	4.7	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can list possible steps they could take moving forward with their career choices	Chat about what education might be needed for their career choices and what steps they could take to move forward.	5	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can fill out an appropriate, realistic sample or actual application form	If youth are ready to apply for post-secondary education, finding application forms and practicing filling them out together could be useful.	5.2	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth can summarize the approximate amount they might need to apply for	Have a conversation about the potential expenses that a person could have when continuing their education.	5.4	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth indicates awareness of funding options	You can chat about funding options and how to go about looking into using them.	6	
<input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> D	Youth visits the website for training and education and	You can have a conversation about the different scholarships/grants available to them and visit relevant websites.	6.7	

	scholarships and grants.			
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Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Youth education information and activities	8
2	Goal setting and planning.....	8
2.1	Thinking about your goals.....	8
2.2	Why education is important	9
2.3	Planning your career	9
3	Short certificate programs	10
3.1	Young Worker Readiness certificate	11
3.2	“Ready to Work” programs	11
3.3	WHMIS.....	11
3.4	First Aid & CPR	12
3.5	Safe Food Handling.....	12
3.6	ServiceBest.....	12
3.7	Serve it Right Saskatchewan	12
3.8	Babysitting courses	12
4	Educational options.....	13
4.1	High School.....	13
4.2	Adult Basic Education	13
4.3	GED Preparation	13
4.4	Aboriginal education and training.....	14
4.5	Saskatchewan Polytechnic	14
4.6	University.....	14
4.7	Apprenticeships	15
4.8	Trades and skills centers	16
4.9	Regional colleges and technical institutions	16
4.10	Career colleges and private institutions.....	17
4.11	Military	17
5	Steps to getting more education	18
5.1	Career Counselling.....	18
5.2	Applying for post-secondary education	19
5.3	Things you could think about when choosing a school.....	19
5.4	Education/Training Costs Checklist	20

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

5.5	Tuition/Funding	20
6	Applying for funding	21
6.1	Band funding	21
6.2	Social assistance	22
6.3	Provincial Training Allowance	22
6.4	Federal and provincial student loans	22
6.5	Private Student Loans.....	22
6.6	Aboriginal scholarships and bursaries.....	23
6.7	Indspire	23

1 YOUTH EDUCATION INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

Some people have found that completing their high school diploma or getting more education after high school can help them get a job they enjoy.

A post-secondary education can mean anything from skills training to apprenticeship, college or university. You might find that it helps you with:

- more job opportunities
- enjoying your job more
- the chance to earn more money throughout your career
- the chance to work with what interests you



This area will explore many training and education options.

2 GOAL SETTING AND PLANNING



You can have a conversation about the youth's educational goals.

The first goal many people have is to graduate from high school. Some people have educational goals after high school.

Sam is a student at an Indigenous college. He discusses his experience working with a team and studying in a supportive environment.

<https://youtu.be/MRx-QK7ehI>

Teneille is studying to be a nurse at an Indigenous college. This shows her experience balancing home and academic life and studying in a small classroom setting.

<https://youtu.be/MRx-QK7ehI>

2.1 THINKING ABOUT YOUR GOALS

Questions you might like to ask yourself could be:

- Is there a program you have thought about taking?
- Where is the program?



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- When will it start?
- How long is it?
- What pre-requisites do you need to have before you apply for the program?
- Why do you feel you would like to take this program?

2.2 WHY EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT



You can have a conversation about how the youth feels about the importance of education, and discuss how making the choice to get an education could benefit them.

If a youth decides to get their high school diploma, it shows employers that you can achieve long-term goals. It also shows that you are capable of managing deadlines and completing projects.



Even without additional education beyond high school, having a high school diploma often can mean making more money and getting jobs that pay more money. What is your goal?

2.3 PLANNING YOUR CAREER



With the youth, brainstorm ideas about what kind of careers they may have thought about already and explore the ideas of different options that might be interesting for them.

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A career is a journey through learning, work and other aspects of life. A job is an activity where a person earns money. Often people have many jobs over their career journey. There are many people who can give you advice about your career. Some of these people are:

- Elders
- School counsellors
- Teachers
- Parents
- Friends

There are many websites that have suggestions for creating a career plan. Some of them are:

- Saskcareers.ca is a useful place to start for planning a career path. Here you can learn about yourself and your interests, discover career paths, explore education and training and connect with employment opportunities.
<https://www.saskcareers.ca/>
- Canada-Saskatchewan Career Employment Services centers in many cities have information on universities, technical institutions and regional colleges. These can have information and application forms for training and income support programs.
- JobConnections <http://www.sit.ca/pages/jobconnections.html> The JobConnections service is a mobile service that comes to different First Nations communities. They offer free employment services and workshops in mobile RV units, which provide a classroom setting, laptops, and internet access.



3 SHORT CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS



You can have a conversation about the types of short certificate programs that have been offered in your community and brainstorm which ones they feel could be most useful.

There are many certificates available that look good on a resume. Places you could look for information on when these programs are offered are:

- Employment offices

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- Schools
- job coaches
- band offices
- health centers
- local newspapers
- bulletin boards



3.1 YOUNG WORKER READINESS CERTIFICATE

This certificate gives youth information about their workplace rights and responsibilities that relate to health, safety, and employment standards in the workplace.

If you'd like to take the free course online you can go to:

<http://ywrcc.saskatchewan.ca/introduction/>

3.2 “READY TO WORK” PROGRAMS

These programs are meant to connect youth to employment, to each other and the community as a whole through educational workshops, field trips and special presentations by employers and community agencies. Work experience and work placements can also be part of these programs. Often there will be flyers posted on bulletin boards when they are available or you can check out:

<http://www.saskintercultural.org/programs/employment/lite>

<http://www.industrymatters.com/stec>

http://www.batc.ca/departments/employment_training.php

<http://saskpolytech.ca/programs-and-courses/upgrading/employment-readiness.aspx>

3.3 WHMIS

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) gives workers information on dangerous products used in the workplace. Workers are trained on the pictograms, labels, and safety data sheets that workers will use. You can look for local providers or check out:



<http://www.worksafesask.ca/prevention/whmis2015/>

<http://www.sasksafety.org/training/workplace-training/whmis>

http://www.ccohs.ca/products/courses/whmis_workers/

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3.4 FIRST AID & CPR

These courses give you the skills to help another person in an emergency. You can use First Aid & CPR in many jobs including babysitting, lifeguard, and youth worker. Two of the main first aid providers are:

St John Ambulance: <http://www.sja.ca/>

Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.ca/>

3.5 SAFE FOOD HANDLING

Safe Food Handling trains people to safely handle food and keep it safe. People who work with food need this course. Some places you could contact to take the course are:

https://www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca/locations_services/Services/Health-Inspection/Pages/Foodsafeclasses.aspx

<http://www.rqhealth.ca/department/environmental-health/safe-food-handlers-courses>

<https://cypresshealth.ca/programs-services/public-health/public-health-inspection/food-safety/>

<https://www.fhhr.ca/FoodSafety.htm>



3.6 SERVICEBEST

ServiceBest is a training course that many employers in restaurants, retail stores and tourism like their employees to have. It provides information on identifying and responding to customer needs and turning unhappy customers into loyal fans. If you are taking a training program that will lead to work in restaurants, retail stores or tourism they will usually arrange for you to take this course. You can find information on this at:

<http://store.industrymatters.com/product/service-best-online>

3.7 SERVE IT RIGHT SASKATCHEWAN

Serve It Right Saskatchewan (SIRS) is a certificate that can be useful for people who serve alcohol. It provides training for the sale and service of alcohol and helps special occasion permit holders to make sure events where alcohol is served are safer. SIRS is usually taken online. You can find information on this at:

<http://store.industrymatters.com/product/SIRSOL/en>

3.8 BABYSITTING COURSES

Babysitting courses are available to youth who want more information on providing child care to small children and infants. Two of the main providers of babysitting courses are:

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St John Ambulance: <http://www.sja.ca/>

Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.ca/>

4 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS



Some youth may have had issues with the traditional educational process. Having a conversation about other options for completing their education could be helpful.

There are many options for attending school. These can be:

- part-time
- full-time
- daytime
- evenings
- in a classroom
- at home online
- in a city or town
- in your community at a learning center
- on the job training often through a community service group



A list of choices can be found at: <http://certification.esdc.gc.ca/lea-mcl/.3nstit.5ti.4n@-eng.jsp?provid=10>

4.1 HIGH SCHOOL

Not everybody finishes high school in the same way. There are a number of ways to get a high school diploma.

If finishing high school one of your goals you could try contacting the school you would like to attend. Some options related to a high school education are adult basic education and General Equivalency Diploma (GED) programs.

4.2 ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs can help you to learn skills in a specific area, gain prerequisites for further training and employment, or enhance your self-sufficiency. They are often offered at regional colleges and technical institutes.

You can find a list of the places that offer Adult Basic Education courses here:

<https://sabea111.wordpress.com/abe-programs-in-sk/>

4.3 GED PREPARATION

General Equivalency Diploma (GED) programs give people the opportunity to earn a diploma that is equivalent to a high school diploma. It shows you have similar

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knowledge and skills to a high school graduate. It can help you with getting jobs or getting into post-secondary school.

<http://www.sasknetwork.ca/html/Learners/educationtraining/finishhighschool.htm>

4.4 ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

There are many educational institutions in Saskatchewan that have a variety of programs. Three of them that are working towards meeting the needs of aboriginal learners are:

- First Nations University of Canada <http://www.fnuniv.ca/>
- Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies <http://www.siiit.sk.ca/>
- Gabriel Dumont Institute/ Dumont Technical Institute <https://gdins.org/>



4.5 SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC

Until recently, the Saskatchewan Polytechnic was called SIAST (Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Sciences and Technologies).

There are Polytechnic campuses in Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Regina. They have an Aboriginal Student Achievement Plan which can offer Indigenous students services that support them to be a successful student.

Some of the certificate or diploma programs they offer:

- Nursing
- Accounting
- Information technology
- Mechanics

Their website is: <http://www.saskpolytech.ca>

4.6 UNIVERSITY

University is another option for people when they are deciding on what education they want to take after high school. There are three universities in Saskatchewan:

- First Nations University of Canada <http://www.fnuniv.ca/>
- University of Regina <http://www.uregina.ca/>

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

- University of Saskatchewan
<http://www.usask.ca/>

University degrees often are needed for careers such as:

- Social Work
- Teacher
- Law
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Geology



4.7 APPRENTICESHIPS



You could go online with the youth and check out all the different occupations that start with apprenticeships.

Apprenticeships are a way to be paid while working towards certification in a Saskatchewan trade. Apprentices spend most of the time working on the job, learning the knowledge and skills associated with a trade from a certified journeyperson. The remaining time is spent in theoretical and technical in-school training, which reinforces and expands on what is learned on the job. Some examples of trades in Saskatchewan are:

- Ironworkers
- welders
- hairstylists
- painters
- electricians
- plumbers

For more information about apprenticeships you can go to:

<http://saskapprenticeship.ca/>

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

4.8 TRADES AND SKILLS CENTERS

Saskatoon, Regina and some other cities have Trades and Skills Centers. These are short-term trades and skills training places that can lead to high-demand jobs in industry. You can check out these websites at:

www.saskatoontradesandskills.ca/

<https://rtsc.org/>

The Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) has industrial and construction career centers which offer training. These programs also can lead to jobs in high-demand. Their website is:

<http://www.siit.ca/pages/industrial-career-centres.html>



4.9 REGIONAL COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

There are colleges all across Saskatchewan. At these colleges you can take classes towards a university degree. You can also take certificate or diploma programs, upgrade your education or skills and even take hands on trades classes.

Carlton Trail Regional College <https://www.carltontrailcollege.com/>

Cumberland Regional College <https://www.cumberlandcollege.sk.ca/>

Northlands College <http://trainnorth.ca/>

North West Regional College <http://www.northwestcollege.ca/>

Parkland Regional College <http://www.parklandcollege.sk.ca/>

Southeast Regional College <https://www.southeastcollege.org/>

Great Plains College <https://www.greatplainscollege.ca/>

Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies <http://www.siit.sk.ca/>

Gabriel Dumont Institute/ Dumont Technical Institute <https://gdins.org/>

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

4.10 CAREER COLLEGES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

Career colleges offer around 160 educational training programs in Saskatchewan. Some of these trainings include:

- Massage therapy
- Road construction and maintenance
- Scaffolding
- Veterinary assistant
- Medical office assistant



Examples of these colleges include:

Mckay Career Training Inc. www.mckaysk.ca/	Saskatoon
Academy of Learning www.academyoflearning.com/programs_saskatchewan.html	Saskatoon, Regina, North Battleford, Prince Albert
RCMP Training Academy www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/cadet-training	Regina
Marca College http://www.mccollege.ca/	Saskatoon
Saskatoon Business College www.sbcollege.ca/	Saskatoon
Saskatoon Spa Academy Ltd www.spaacademy.ca/	Saskatoon
Southeast Aviation Services www.southeastaviation.ca/	Estevan
Apex Academy of Professional Grooming & Animal Arts www.apexacademy.ca/	Regina

For more information about career colleges you can go to:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/education-and-learning/universities-colleges-and-schools/career-colleges>

4.11 MILITARY

Joining the military or the military reserves with the army, navy, or air force is a career path that has been good for many people. If a person joins the military they qualify for free education and a guaranteed job. They will also get a salary and benefits while

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<http://saskpolytech.ca/student-services/support/counselling-career/index.aspx>

Gabriel Dumont Institute

<https://gdins.org/career-and-employment/career-counselling/>

Other communities may have career counsellors available at job search centers or at schools. Often post-secondary schools will have a website where you can contact a career counsellor online.

5.2 APPLYING FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION



If youth are ready to apply for post-secondary education, finding application forms and practicing filling them out together could be useful.

There are many schools that offer programs to give you a head start towards a career.

These schools often have different application requirements, so it can be helpful to make a list of the places that offer programs you are interested in. You can also list where they are located, the programs you are interested in, when the program starts, and what kind of classes you need to get into the program.



Some prerequisites that schools could ask for are:

- High school transcripts
- Criminal record check
- Portfolio
- Medical certificates

5.3 THINGS YOU COULD THINK ABOUT WHEN CHOOSING A SCHOOL

- Do you prefer to live in or near your current community?
- Do you prefer to live on campus or commute to campus?
- Do you plan to work while you are getting your education?
- Do you need a flexible class schedule?
- Do you prefer to attend a large or a small postsecondary institute?
- Is it important to you to participate in student groups and extracurricular activities?
- How do your financial aid options compare to the cost of tuition at the institution you are considering?

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

- Is there a particular program you are interested in studying? If so, does the postsecondary institution you are considering offer this program?
- If you are interested in a particular career, do the postsecondary institutions you are considering offer programs and degrees that meet the educational requirements for that career?

5.4 EDUCATION/TRAINING COSTS CHECKLIST



Have a conversation about the potential expenses that a person could have when continuing their education.

This is an example of expenses a student who wants to take a practical nursing program could have.

Items to include	Cost
Books and equipment	\$3200 / year
Tuition (per course)	\$4189.00 / year
Supplies such as binders, paper, pens	\$30.00 / year
Extras the school requires like school ID fees – student fees	\$968.00 / year
Living expenses (see Money Counts section)	\$1171.00 / month

This table can be used to estimate costs for other programs.

Items to include	Cost
Books	
Tuition	
Supplies such as binders, paper, pens	
Extras the school asks for like school ID fees – student fees	
Living expenses (see Money Counts section)	

5.5 TUITION/FUNDING

Usually once a person has thought about where they might like to go to school they can talk to the school's student advisor to help them find out more about tuition and funding.

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

Often your band will have funding available for school. Each First Nation has their own application method and deadline for applications. Metis and non-status youth also may have educational funds available to them.

Scholarships and bursaries could be available to help pay for schooling and living expenses.

Short training programs may be eligible for training support. Check at your closest Tribal Council or Metis Local for employment skills training support.



6 APPLYING FOR FUNDING



You can chat with them about funding options and how to go about looking into applying for them.

Once you have decided what you are going to take and where to go to school talk to the counsellor at the school to help you find out more about tuition and funding. Each First Nations has their own application method and deadline for applications. Metis and non-status youth also may have educational funds available to them. Contacting your local Metis local and looking into student loans is an option for all youth. You should also look for scholarships and bursaries to help you pay for schooling and living expenses.

The Canada.ca website has put together a list of tips and website links to help students finance their education. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/student-financial-aid.html>

6.1 BAND FUNDING

In some cases your band may have education funding available. Each band is likely to be different, so contacting your band office is usually the best option.

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

6.2 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you find that applying for social assistance might be an option, your worker will be able to help explore financial options for finishing high school, taking a program with a trades and skills center or possibly other options.

You can call 1-866-221-5200 or go to <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/SAP> to find out more about these options.

6.3 PROVINCIAL TRAINING ALLOWANCE

The provincial training allowance provides income assistance to low-income adult students. If a person would like to take a full-time Adult Basic Education, workforce development or skills training program they can apply for PTA after being accepted. The people who organize the programs will usually have information on how to apply for this provincial training allowance.

Information on the Provincial Training Allowance can be found at:

http://sk.211.ca/service/18129459_18122519/provincial_training_allowance

6.4 FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL STUDENT LOANS

Federal and provincial student loans in Canada help post-secondary students pay for their education. These loans are flexible and usually a person can wait until they are finished school before starting to repay them.

6.5 PRIVATE STUDENT LOANS

Private student loans are loans from a place like a bank. There are good things and not-so-good things about getting a private student loan.

Good things:

- There is no maximum amount that can be borrowed
- Sometimes interest rates are lower
- There are many types of loans available



Not-so-good things

- The amount of interest you pay could be higher in the future than you expect
- Higher loans could mean that the person who borrows the money could be paying more interest.
- It can be difficult to get a private loan

Transition Planning for Youth Aging Out

- Some loans need a co-signer
- Loan payments might start while the borrower is still in school

6.6 ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

The Aboriginal Multi-media Society has an Aboriginal Scholarship Guide showing scholarships that could be available. <http://ammsa.com/community-access/scholarships/>

Scholarships that are for people who live in Saskatchewan can be found at: <http://ammsa.com/content/saskatchewan-scholarships>

Each school you want to attend usually has additional scholarship applications available. Career counsellors or student advisors can help you find more information about these.

6.7 INDSPIRE



You can have a conversation about this program and visit the website with them.

Indspire is a program led by Indigenous people for Indigenous people. They serve First Nation, Inuit, and Métis students in remote communities and urban centres across Canada. They have information about financial awards, programs, and resources that could help with education funding.

You can find information on this program at: <http://indspire.ca/>

