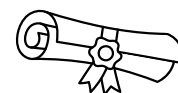




### ***It's never too early to prepare for exiting high school!***



Exiting High School! It's an exciting time and it's never too early to plan and prepare. For some families, graduation will take place in a few months while other students may have a few years to prepare. One of the most important decisions, to be made as early as possible is what kind of diploma your student will be working towards. In Virginia, there is the Standard Diploma, the Advanced Studies Diploma, and the Applied Studies Diploma.

The Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas are the diplomas that will allow your student to attend a two or four-year college or university as well as certain trade schools or other post-high school training options. The Applied Studies Diploma is for a small number of students who have significant cognitive disabilities and have not participated in the Standards of Learning (SOL) curriculum track. An Applied Studies Diploma, which shows the completion of IEP goals, can be the right choice for some students but it can have an impact on the student's future, including post-secondary education and employment opportunities. So it's important to review diploma options as early as possible in your student's school career to ensure that they are on the right track and that you are working together to plan their post-graduation future!

### **Helpful PEATC Resources**

Applied Studies Diploma for Students with Disabilities ..... [ENGLISH](#) [SPANISH](#)

Graduation Requirements for a Standard or Advanced ..... [ENGLISH](#) [SPANISH](#)  
Studies Diploma

Profile of a Virginia Graduate ..... [ENGLISH](#) [SPANISH](#)

# PEATC Transition Happenings

## YET Council Meetings

January 8, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.



**Calling all youth aged 14-26** who are a good self-advocate or want to learn self-advocacy skills. The [Youth Empowerment Transition \(YET\) Council](#) is looking for new youth council members to join in on conversations!

The YET Council is a group that empowers Virginia students with disabilities, ages 14-26, as they begin their transition from High School to Adulthood with monthly discussions about empowering themselves and increasing their self-advocacy.

Meetings are held on Zoom **every 2nd Monday of the month**. If you know of a youth who would be interested in joining the YET Council, contact Kendra Wormley at [kwormley@peatc.org](mailto:kwormley@peatc.org) for more information.

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## Transition University

February 12 - April 8, 2024

Join us for this FREE 5-week SELF-PACED online course that focuses on providing parent-friendly information to help make transition planning for students with disabilities.

This course is designed for parents/caregivers of elementary, middle, or high school students who receive special education services, but is open to everyone. The goal is to share factual information on transition services and to help make the transition from school services to the adult services world less confusing and more effective. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## Other Happenings

### Supported Decision Options When Your Child with a Disability Turns 18

(Presented IN SPANISH - Live on Zoom and In-Person)

January 10, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.

Join the Arc of Northern Virginia to learn about options for decision-making when your child with a disability turns 18. Attend this workshop to learn about options for types of legal authority, including guardianship and alternatives. Join in person at The Arc of Northern Virginia or participate virtually on Zoom. This event is presented in Spanish. [REGISTER FOR IN PERSON](#) || [REGISTER FOR ZOOM WEBINAR](#)

## ABLE Youth Transition Toolkit

January 18, 2024 | 2:00 p.m.

This webinar will be a launch of the ABLE Transition Toolkit which is designed to educate family members, caregivers, and youth disability services providers on the benefits and use of Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Accounts. [REGISTER HERE](#)

## DBVI (Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired) Townhall Meeting

January 23, 2024 | 6:30 p.m.

Join DBVI for an exciting 2024 program overview. Learn about the in-person and virtual opportunities that will be held for students. Whether they are interested in career exploration, technology, or college prep, DBVI has something for everyone. [REGISTER HERE](#)

DBVI (Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired) [LIFE Program](#) applications are open for the 4-week residential training program for students between the ages of 14-18 who are returning to a high school in the fall of 2024. **The application deadline is April 1, 2024.**

### Check this out!

Here are some other great resources from the Virginia Department of Education that can help prepare your family for exiting high school!



[Graduation](#)



[Advanced Studies Diploma: Graduation Requirements](#)



[Standard Diploma: Graduation Requirements](#)



[Applied Studies Diploma](#)

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