

-2026 Update of the - Transition Collaborative Summative Report

A Collaborative Report Authorized by ESSSB 5253 Legislation



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



Washington State
Rehabilitation Council



WADDC
Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

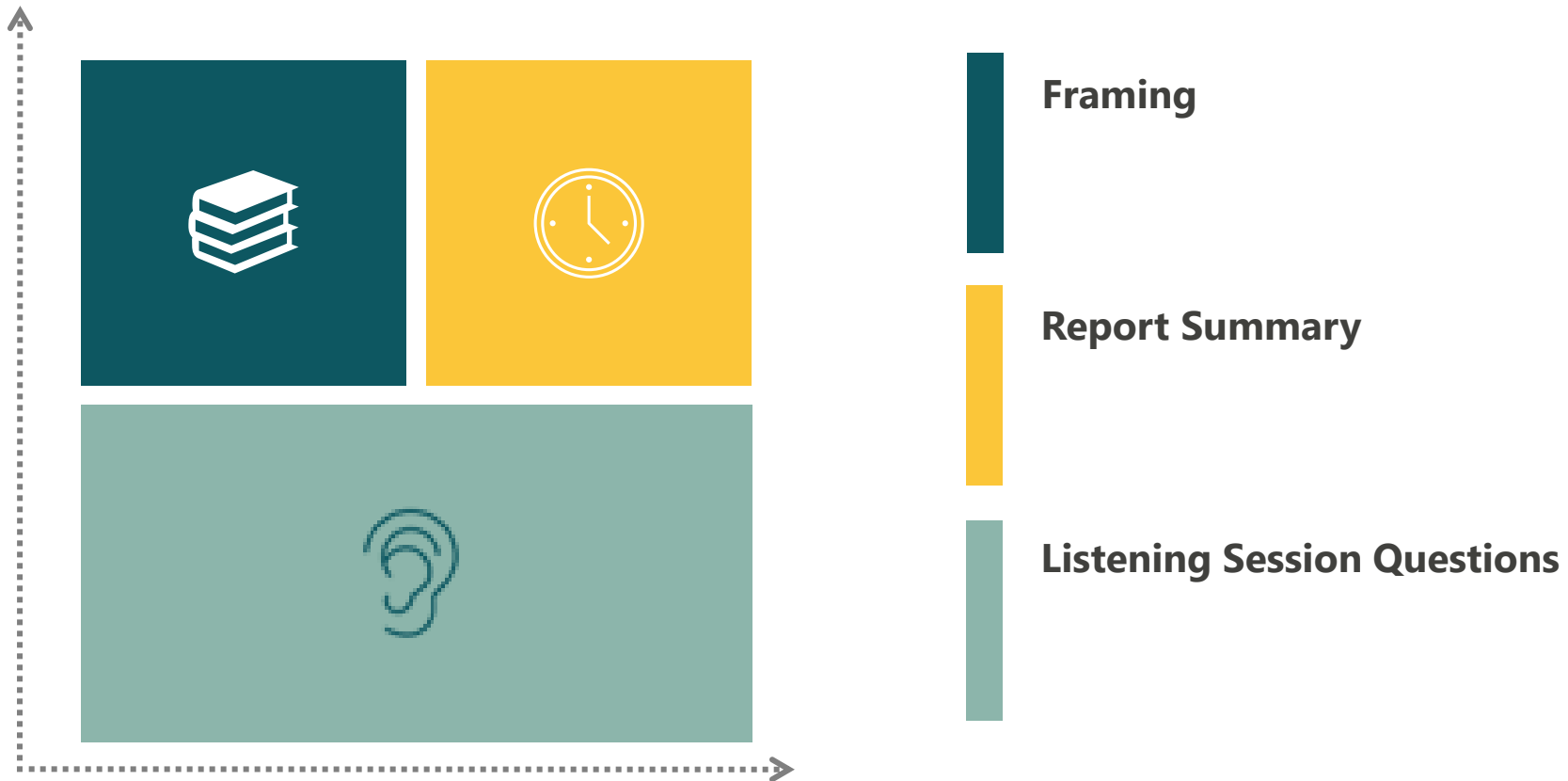


DSHS
WASHINGTON STATE
Department of Social
and Health Services



WASHINGTON STATE
**Department of Services
for the Blind**

Listening Session Agenda



Why are We Here?

- This report is required under Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5253 (E2SSB 5253) and due **October 2026**.
- This implementation plan must include :
 - Description of provision of coordinated transition services;
 - Examples of coordinated transition services for students ages 16–22; and
 - Assurance that transition services supplement and do not supplant special education funding
 - Consultation with nonprofit transition providers and advocates for students with IEPs



Who the Report Focuses on?

- **What we mean by Transition?**

- Supporting students to exit school ready for their next steps after high school. This includes *adult life*, work, college/training and community living.

- **Who this report focuses on?**

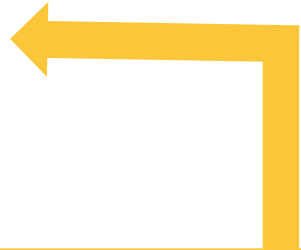
- Students with significant support needs. Students who are likely to be eligible for adult disability services.

- **Why this student focus group is the focus?**

- The focus student group has the largest opportunity gaps for graduation outcomes and post school engagement.
- Having a focus student group also supports the state to have a deep focus on data for this group.



Background



2020 Transition Summative Report

Identified systemic barriers including:

- inconsistent local coordination
- misaligned timelines and uneven access to employment-focused transition services,
- unclear funding boundaries.



Report findings informed legislative action, including [Senate Bill 5790](#) which included:

- implementing interagency data share to support agency connection
- funding for School to Work expansion statewide,
- Transition Council
- creating statewide and regional transition network



2026 Transition Summative Report Update



A Joint Effort by Transition Collaborative Partners and the Community

- ★ Students, Families and Advocates
- ★ Community Rehabilitation Providers
- ★ County Partners
- ★ Educators
- ★ Tribal Partners

- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Special Education division,
- Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS)
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
- Department of Services for the Blind (DSB)
- The Center for Change in Transition Services (CCTS) at Seattle University
- Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)
- Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC)



Listening Sessions

Five Scheduled Listening Sessions will engage the community in:

- Framing for recommendations
- Identifying opportunities and next steps
- Provider and individual impact statements

Monday,
March 23rd
1:00 – 2:30pm

**Association of
County Human
Services**

Wednesday,
April 22nd
6:00-7:30pm

**Students,
Family,
Advocates**

Thursday,
April 23rd
3:30 – 5:00pm

Educators

Wednesday,
April 29th
1:00-2:30pm

**Community
Rehabilitation
Providers**

Scheduling In
Progress

**Tribal
Government**



Summary of Transition Support Initiatives and Activities

Key statewide efforts included:

- expansion of School-to-Work,
- implementation of a schools to disability agency data share,
- establishment of a Statewide Transition Council and strengthening of regional transition networks,
- extension of special education eligibility until age 22
- publication and systemwide use of the Washington State Transition Map
- increased emphasis on inclusive educational practices tied to postschool outcomes and





Bright Spots

- **More inclusive education**
 - More students with significant support needs are learning in general education settings.
- **Stronger coordination efforts and tools across agencies**
 - Consent-to-Share initiative helps agencies identify and support students earlier.
 - The Washington State Transition Map
- **Expanded regional coordination**
 - Regional transition networks helping partners collaborate.
 - The new state transition council
- **More employment programs**
 - School-to-Work services expanded across more counties.
 - Pre-Employment Transition Services reaching more students.



Ongoing Challenges:

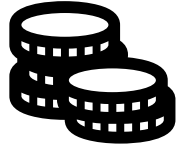
Why Recommendations are Needed



- **Continued lower employment and post-school outcomes for the focus student group**
- **Transition systems don't always connect smoothly**
 - Education timelines and adult service timelines are often misaligned.
 - Students can experience a "transition cliff" when exiting school.
 - There is a need for more job readiness activities and work-based learning experiences
- **Navigation is complicated**
 - Families and educators report confusion about available services and who to contact.
- **Inconsistent experiences and access across regions**
- **Workforce and system capacity constraints**



Key Recommendations (Part 1)



- **Maintain stable Funding:**

- Maintain sustained, predictable funding for foundational transition infrastructure, particularly School-to-Work services, to ensure long-term educational and job outcomes.



- **Improve statewide alignment:**

- Continue strengthening a consistent, statewide approach to coordinated transition planning that aligns education and adult service systems and promotes equitable implementation.



- **Clarify roles and timelines:**

- Strengthen statewide guidance on coordinated transition timelines
- Clarify expectations for intentional service overlap
- Reinforce that school services and adult services overlap when needed rather than leaving gaps



Key Recommendations (Part 2)



- **Strengthen system coordination:**

- Support cross-agency data sharing and joint professional learning
- Regional transition networks to improve continuity, service coordination, and postschool outcomes
- Move Job Foundation under DVR Transition Services
- Engage business, identify barriers and improve systems to address underemployment



- **Improve system navigation:**

- Create clearer resources so families understand available services
- Update the Washington Transition Map
- Enhance the Consent to Share Student Information initiative through clearer communication, family-facing resources, and strategic outreach approaches.





Transition Listening Session Questions



What we mean by Transition?

Supporting students to exit school ready for their next steps after high school. This includes adult life, work, college/training and community living.

Question 1

Where do students or families have gaps or confusion when moving from school services to adult services?



Question 2

What is working well and should expand statewide?



Question 3

*When or how does coordination work well?
When does it break down?*



Question 4

What is one change that would improve transition outcomes the most?

Outcomes can include getting ready for:

- Adult life
- Work,
- College/training or
- Community living



Next Steps

Listening Sessions
Complete

Final Report Approval
By Transition
Collaborative

May 2026

June 2026

July 2026

August 2026

September 2026

October 2026

Update the Summative Report based on Listening Session Feedback

Due date to
Submit Report
to Legislature



Learn more about
the listening
sessions and
engage with the
Transition
Collaborative and



[Transition
Collaborative Project](#)





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