










# A Caregiver's Guide to Services: Step-by-Step from Age 15 & Up

15-16	<p><b>Apply for a Washington State I.D. card.</b>            Located at 1920 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 – PH: (360) 416-7563  <b>WHY:</b> A photo ID will be needed to apply for many adult services.</p>	
16	<p><b>Apply with Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA).</b>  <b>WHY:</b> Case management, family support and other services to help your child maximize their independence. Long term supports for employment after age 21. Applying early helps ensure funding availability. – PH: (360) 429-3103</p>	
17-17 ½	<p><b>Consider if guardianship is necessary and determine type of guardianship.</b>  <b>WHY:</b> At age 18 your child becomes a legal adult and may need support making legal, medical, and vocational decisions. Consider alternatives to full guardianship. Contact Skagit County Public Health at (360) 416-1520 for resources and planning assistance.</p>	<p><b>GUARDIANSHIP and alternatives</b></p>
17-19	<p><b>Apply for low-income housing through the Housing Authority.</b>  <b>WHY:</b> The waitlist for housing can be long, so it's important to apply early. PH: (360) 428-1959. Learn about housing choice vouchers and project-based housing. Email <a href="mailto:info@skagitcountyha.org">info@skagitcountyha.org</a> for more information.</p>	
	<p><b>If your child does not receive Social Security (SS) Benefits—apply now!</b>  <b>WHY:</b> Your child is now an adult; parental income is no longer counted. Your child may be eligible for cash and medical benefits. There are many provisions available, called <b>WORK INCENTIVES</b>, that allow people with disabilities to keep benefits, including Medicare/Medicaid, while working.  <b>Your child needs to pay rent to the family to maximize SS benefits.</b></p>	
18	<p><b>Ask your child's DDA case manager about Personal Care funding.</b>            If your child needs help with bathing, grooming, dressing, laundry, etc. funding may be available for Personal Care. Support can be provided by either family members or a contracted provider. Contact your child's DDA case manager and ask about the Community First Choice (CFC) Program – PH: (360) 429-3103. Apply now to see how this, and other services, may benefit your family.</p>	<p><b>Personal Care</b></p>
Senior year of High School	<p><b>Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).</b>  <b>WHY:</b> If seeking aid to attend college, this form must be filled out by March 1 of your child's senior year of high school for best consideration. <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a></p>	
18-20	<p><b>Apply for services with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)</b>  <b>WHY:</b> This agency helps people with disabilities find, and retain, a job and understand how working affects benefits. – PH: (360) 416-7201</p>	
18-21	<p><b>Apply to the Skagit County Bridges Program.</b>  <b>WHY:</b> Connects students in their last 3 years of school with adult vocational agencies to ensure an effective transition to work/adult life. Must be DDA eligible and enrolled with DVR. Call Jen Smith, County Transition Specialist at (360) 416-1520, or talk with your child's DDA case manager or transition program.</p>	
Anytime	<p><b>Ask about current programs for youth through WorkSource.</b>  <b>WHY:</b> This is a local program that can help self-directed job seekers find employment and develop work skills. – PH: (360) 416-3600</p>	
Anytime	<p><b>Skagit Transit and Paratransit services.</b>  <b>WHY:</b> Learning to ride the bus helps your child to become more independent. They offer flexible alternative public transportation for people with disabilities. Ask about travel training and reduced fares. – PH: (360) 757-4433</p>	
Anytime	<p><b>Connect with Parent to Parent</b>  <b>WHY:</b> Assistance in connecting with resources and providing support to parents by other parents of individuals with disabilities. – PH: (360) 416-7570.</p>	