

Now You are 18 With a Disability – Facilitator Guide to presentations

Week	Title	Objective	Specifics
Week 1	General Overview: Rights and Responsibilities that confer at age 18 – Ready or not!?	<p>Introduction to Session: Explain to students and parents what rights and responsibilities transfer to their child on their 18th birthday based on age, not maturity – ready or not! Open their eyes to areas they may not have thought of, and prepared for. We will discuss specific areas and provide resources for parents to consider and research depending on their individual needs.</p> <p><i><u>We are not providing legal advice or answers,</u></i> simply raising the issues for parents to consider. We will provide resources for further information.</p> <p>If your child with a disability is not ready for these rights and responsibilities, consider guardianship.</p> <p>What does your child’s life path look like? Consider future living and financial needs.</p> <p>Session includes 6 classes followed by 4 workshops taught by subject matter experts. (See Now You are 18 booklet, general principles)</p>	<p>Graphic : What changes at 18? Do you realize..... 17 18 List what each side (before and after 18) looks like.</p> <p>Voting and military service Jury Duty / Court system – sample documents/ diagrams Driving / insurance Legal Charges – tried as adult after 18 Contracts – authority to sign Employment – disclose or not? Living situations – home, alone, shared, room mates Relationships – intimate boundaries (puppy love vs. stalking, texting vs. harassment) Mental health – personal responsibility Guardianship – levels, needs Special Needs Trusts/ Estate planning Benefits/ Resources – state agencies, programs, services Job Coach? Life Coach Paternity, marriage</p>
Week 1	Rights, AND Responsibility	Voting	<p>1 800-252-VOTE www.sos.state.tx.us See book</p> <p>How to sign up, who can vote. Do you have to vote?</p>

Week 1		Military Service	<p>MALES must register within 30 days of their birthday!</p> <p>www.sss.gov</p> <p>Look for registration acknowledgement card. This is proof you complied with the law.</p> <p>Does my disability disqualify me? If you don't register there may be punishments.</p>
Week 1		Jury Duty	<p>You may be called! You must respond!</p> <p>Does my disability disqualify me?</p> <p>Sample jury duty notice.</p>
Week 1		Driving	<p>Privilege not a right, can be revoked</p> <p>Parent's liability ends at 18</p> <p>Driver's license as ID for many activities</p> <p>Insurance, Drinking, Car registration, inspection, license plates and maintenance. Speaking to an officer, citations and tickets, responsibility</p>
Week 2	Legal Charges	<p>Criminal vs. Civil explained</p> <p>Pitfalls to avoid and watch out for!</p>	<p>How does our justice system work?</p> <p>Range of charges, citation through felony.</p> <p>Scams/ Cons – show scam file – be aware</p> <p>Puppy love vs. Stalking</p> <p>Texting vs. harassment/ threats are serious</p> <p>Ignorance of the law is no excuse</p> <p>Guilt by association (new best friend)</p> <p>Vulnerability of population</p>

Week 3	Contracts	Description and typical examples (gym, cell phone, lease, car, shopping network)	What is a contract? What does a contract in writing mean? What is in the fine print? What if I break a contract? On line forms are contracts! (print!) Who is responsible? Have someone review! Practice filling one out!
Week 4	Social Media / Reputation	Face book, Texts, cyber safety, bullying, threats You Tube	What you post where is important! Your online history, People look you up. Cyber Safety, threats, texting, sexting, porn and illegal activity What to post/ not post Scam's cons/ phishing
Week 5	Employment	Disclose or not disclose	What is a realistic job path? Are you creating a resume? Do you need training? Start networking and seeking support services. What are your rights as an employee? The employer's rights? Can you be fired? if you disclose your disability?
Week 6	Living situations	Shared spaces, public decency, handling disagreements	Apartment/ neighbors/ roommates/ leases/disturbing the peace/ public conduct What are my obligations as a tenant? Landlord's obligations? How to handle disagreements with neighbors/ landlord

	Workshop 1	Guardianship (Volunteer Lawyer specializing in Guardianship – subject matter expert)	If your child is not ready for the rights and responsibilities, what can be done? Start early! General, Financial, Medical guardianship When and why, today’s possibilities What if parents don’t have guardianship? Risks with and without guardianship? Options and resources
	Workshop 2	Special Needs Estate Planning & Trusts – (Volunteer Special Needs Estate Planning attorney or Financial Planner subject matter expert)	The function and value of a special needs trust as a legal instrument. Planning for the future when parents are no longer able to care for their child with a disability. Trusts to hold assets and what type of asset. Who should be Trustees?
	Workshop 3	SSA/SSI/SSDI Presenter from local SSA office	Benefits defined. How / when / where and what to apply for. Links to online applications, accounts. Program requirements (assets, ages, living arrangements, job income etc.) Booklets: Understanding Supplemental Social Security Income Social Security Red Book – A summary guide to employment supports for persons with disabilities under the Social Security Disability Insurance and the Supplemental Security Income programs. www.socialsecurity.gov
	Workshop 4	Financial responsibility – Certified financial planner subject matter expert	Banking, creating and using a budget, auto deposit of pay checks, on line banking safety, establishing and using credit effectively, ID theft, credit reports, loans (rates and to / from whom). Scams.