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**Subject:** clarification about the terms "postsecondary goal" and "annual IEP goal"

I would like to provide some clarification about the terms *postsecondary goal* and *annual IEP goal* as they are used in relation to transition planning.

The term *postsecondary goal* refers to the specific plans or dreams that a student envisions for himself after high school regarding education, training, employment, and independent living.

When the IEP Team completes a Transition Planning Form (TPF) for the student, they note the student's *postsecondary goals* in the TPF Post-Secondary Vision. Examples of postsecondary goals in the TPF: Student wants to attend community college after graduation. Student sees himself living in an apartment with friends. Student is interested in a career in television.

The term *annual goal* refers to the Goals that are entered in a student's IEP along with several Objectives.

In a student's IEP, there are some *annual goals* that are provided for the student regardless of her postsecondary plans. For instance, an annual goal in Reading is provided for a student who requires services or specialized instruction in reading in order to make effective progress in her current education.

A *postsecondary annual goal* is an IEP goal that specifically supports the postsecondary goals in the student's TPF. The IEP Team uses the student's postsecondary goals in the TPF along with the Disability Related Needs in the TPF to devise *postsecondary annual goals* for the student's IEP.

It is the Department's intent in both its order of corrective action, and subsequent letter of clarification provided to the District and copied to the parents, that the IEP Team convene to consider and develop as appropriate, the student's *postsecondary annual IEP goal(s)*. Please

note, should there be disagreement on those goal(s), upon receipt of the district's notice and proposed IEP, the parent may choose to reject the IEP ( in whole or in part) and pursue due process proceedings through the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA).

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