

Communication is Key!

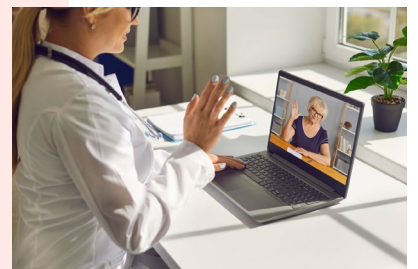
Know your rights

As you or a family member begin to transition from being in high school and are becoming an adult, remember that you have the right to communicate as well as other rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Your SLP can provide support and information!

You have the right to communicate where you live, work, learn and play! Below are some tips and resources to help you communicate no matter where you are!

Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS)

The free nationwide telecommunications relay service (TRS), reached by calling 7-1-1, uses communications assistants (also called CAs or relay operators) who serve as intermediaries between people who have hearing or speech disabilities who use a text telephone (TTY) or text messaging and people who use standard voice telephones. The communications assistant tells the telephone user what the other party is typing and types to tell the other party what the telephone user is saying. TRS also provides speech-to-speech transliteration for callers who have speech disabilities



Video Relay Service (VRS)

Video relay service (VRS) is a free, subscriber-based service for people who use sign language and have videophones, smart phones, or computers with video communication capabilities. For outgoing calls, the subscriber contacts the VRS interpreter, who places the call and serves as an intermediary between the subscriber and a person who uses a standard voice telephone. The interpreter tells the telephone user what the subscriber is signing and signs to the subscriber what the telephone user is saying.



What is Title I and what does it mean for you?

This law is in place to prohibit employers from discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability. It covers all aspects of your job from the beginning to the end. This also ensures that job training is made accessible - which includes communication, too!



What is Title 2 and what does it mean for you?

This law is in place to protect individuals from discrimination by public entities. It requires effective communication, meaning that equal alternatives must be available. This also ensures that public entities cannot refuse to accommodate individuals with disabilities. This includes access to communication while using public transportation, in higher educational settings and in the workplace.

