

Abstract

DISSERTATION PROJECT: SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSITION PREDICTORS USED IN INDIANA FOR SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS: FINDINGS FROM THE FIELD

STUDENT: Nikki S. Sprunger

Degree: Doctor of Education

College: Teachers' College

Date: December 2014

Pages: 254

Legislation has mandated that secondary schools provide services for students with disabilities that prepare them for independent living, employment, and/or post-secondary education (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 2004). This study examined the perceptions of special education directors, assistant directors/program coordinators, and secondary special education teachers concerning the current knowledge, usage, and effectiveness of evidenced-based transition predictors at the high school level in the state of Indiana and the impact on post-school outcomes. The study also examined the barrier to positive post-school outcomes faced by SWD including paid employment/work experiences, inclusion in the general education setting, self-care/independent living skills, self-advocacy/self-determination skills, and parental involvement.