

## **Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative**

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# **Understanding the Summary of Performance (SoP)**

# Why do the summary of performance?

• It is required under the reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004. The law came into effect on July 1, 2005.

## Who needs a summary of performance?

- Students who will graduate this year
- Students who will age out of high school this year

#### What is a summary of performance?

- Summary of academic achievement
- Summary of functional performance as it relates to measurable postsecondary goal(s)
- Recommendations on how to assist the student in meeting the student's measurable postsecondary goal(s)

#### What is the purpose of the summary of performance?

- To assist in the student eligibility process for reasonable accommodations and supports in postsecondary settings. Please note that accommodations and supports that are written in the SoP are not guaranteed at the postsecondary level.
- To assist in the DVR assessment process.
- To assist the student in transitioning from high school to post high school.
- Summative documentation that goes with the student when he/she leaves high school.

\*The SoP does not meet the requirements of documenting a student's disability under ADA for postsecondary institutions.

#### When is a summary of performance completed?

• It is completed during the last year the student is in high school. The specific timing during that last year is individually based on the student's postsecondary goal(s), so it may be different for all students.

Does the student need the information in the SoP to apply for college?

• Then the SoP is done in the fall.

Will the information be needed to provide the employer with the most current information?

• Then the SoP is done in the spring.

#### **Notes:**

- The SoP is individualized and driven by the student's measurable postsecondary goal(s).
- The SoP does not require any additional assessment.
- The SoP is *NOT* a part of the IEP therefore an IEP meeting does not have to be conducted to complete the SoP.
- The SoP *cannot* take the place of the exit IEP meeting (because there is a change in the student's placement and parents have the right to be notified of such.)

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