



## Turning 18

Turning 18 is a big deal! When you turn 18, you are an adult in most states. This means you can make choices in your life about your education, where you live, what doctor you see, what to do with your money, and many other things. Here are some things you should think about as you become an adult.

- Photo ID** – You will need a photo ID like a driver’s license, DMV-issued ID card, or a passport. Your school ID card does not count. A photo ID is needed to get a job, go to the doctor or the bank, and get on an airplane. You will use it in many other places too.
  
- Bank Account** – With a bank account, you will be able to save money and keep your money safe. Having a trusted adult on your account can help you to keep your money safe from people. It’s okay to have someone help you with your money.
  
- Register to Vote** – At 18, you can register to vote and vote in upcoming elections for local, state, and federal elections. This includes voting for the President of the United States.
  
- Selective Services** – If you are born a male, you must register with Selective Services, even if you have a disability. You can register online at <https://www.sss.gov/register>
  
- Medical Provider** – It’s important to look for a doctor that works with adults, not children. They can help you stay healthy and treat any medical issues or concerns you have.



Other things to think about:

- Work** – Having a job is a great way to save money and spend it on things that you want and need. You can contact your local vocational rehabilitation agency for help in looking for a job, learning how to be an entrepreneur, and providing you with a variety of supports.
- College** – Going to college can be a great experience and can help get the skills you need to get a job. If you want to go to college, look at different schools, go on campus tours, and connect with the Disability Services Office if you need supports to help you succeed.
- Trade School** – Learning a trade can prepare you to get a job in certain fields of interest like HVAC, plumbing, cybersecurity, and many other jobs. Explore various jobs of interest and connect with a community college or a trade school for more information.
- Making Choices** – As an adult, you will make choices about different things in your life. You may need help with some decisions, especially important ones. There are different ways that you can get this help, including a process called supported decision-making. You can talk to your parent or your case manager about this.

18  
**WOW**  
you're  
an adult!



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