

6 FAST FACTS

Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students (CIRCLES)

1

CIRCLES is an evidence-based approach that targets students with disabilities who require coordination among multiple adult service agencies to achieve positive post-school outcomes.

2

Transition planning with CIRCLES involves a three-tiered team structure consisting of a Community Level Team (administrators), School Level Team (direct service providers), and IEP Team (for aligning transition goals with student plans).

3

Students involved with CIRCLES demonstrate greater levels of self-determination skills and more active engagement in their transition planning than students who are not involved in CIRCLES.

4

Implementation of CIRCLES leads to greater satisfaction among students, parents, and professionals while enhancing communication across all levels (i.e., community level, school level, and IEP teams).

5

Common barriers to CIRCLES implementation include scheduling difficulties, inconsistent stakeholder participation, inadequate training, and logistical challenges.

6

Effective CIRCLES implementation requires clearly defined roles, structured meeting frameworks, comprehensive training, active student and family engagement, and systems to overcome logistical barriers.

This fact sheet was developed by the Illinois Center for Transition and Work at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign through a contract with the Illinois State Board of Education. Information presented may not reflect the position or policy of the Illinois State Board of Education.

