

September 2025

We're excited to share a quick update about **the School Leavers Program** which is launching across Nova Scotia in September 2025.

This program is a collaboration between the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) and the Disability Support Program (DSP). It will support 100 Grade 12 students with intellectual or significant disabilities as they prepare for life after high school, in line with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Remedy. Additional students will be added to the program in the following years.

School Leavers will be paired with a **Local Area Coordinator (LAC)**, a community-based planner who collaborates with the student, their family, school team, and community partners to create a personalized **Transition Plan**. This plan supports students in exploring work, volunteer, education, recreation, housing, and social opportunities.

Selecting students was a **randomized process**, with designated spaces for students who self-identified as Indigenous/Mi'kmaw and students who self-identified as African Nova Scotian/Black. This program complements existing school-based transition planning, strengthening the link between their education and adult services.

#### What's next?

- LACs will begin contacting School Leavers and their parent(s)/guardian(s) in early September.
- LACs will also be reaching out directly to principals of schools that have registered School Leavers.
- The School Leaver or their family can choose if they would like their LAC involved in Student Planning Team (SPT) meetings.
- School Leavers may ask you questions about the program or other supports across the province. You can direct them to more information and FAQs at [the School Leavers Program](https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-leavers) website (<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-leavers>).

Please feel free to share this message with your network in advance of the program launch.

Thank you for your role in supporting students involved in transition planning in this important transition. If you have any questions, please contact [school-leavers@novascotia.ca](mailto:school-leavers@novascotia.ca).

Sincerely,



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