***Telos Academy – Frequently Asked Questions: Transitioning from Telos Academy***

As you anticipate the conclusion of your son’s treatment at Telos, there are several items that will assist in making his transition into his next academic environment a smooth one. This document will help inform you about the common procedures associated with a student graduating or discharging from Telos Academy.

**1) Where do Telos students transition to after discharge?**

-With very few exceptions, Telos students generally transition into another academic setting after leaving Telos. Common academic placements fall into the following general categories:

* Telos Anthem House: Students may continue to attend high school at Telos Academy or a local university while living at the Telos Anthem House which is located in Orem, Utah.
* University or College: After graduation, the majority of our students apply to and are accepted into a college program.
* Public School: Students may elect to return to the local public school near their home to complete the rest of their high school education.
* Another boarding school or private program: Students who still have not completed high school, but still need more structure than can be provided by a public school often elect to transition to another program as vetted by their parents and educational consultants.

**2) My son is discharging from Telos in the near future. What considerations should I be keeping in mind?**

* **Transcripts** – All credits earned at Telos are amalgamated into an official transcript. All subsequent educational placements will need a copy of a student’s transcript. In order to receive an official transcript, you must request one from Telos Academy administration. Please do this as your son discharges. \*\*Please note that all billing must be up to date before a transcript is released.
* **Student Applications and Recommendations** – When transitioning into another school or program, parents may encounter an application process that requires a current assessment by current teachers. Telos educators are happy to complete confidential reports as required for these applications. Parents take the lead by sending digital or hard copies of the needed forms to Telos Academy **with at least two weeks** lead time from when the completed forms are needed. Please also note that Telos Academy needs signed authorization from parents to release this information. Generally, most applications have a clause included that will suffice. Parents should complete their portion of the application previous to asking Telos Academy to complete such requests. If there is a portion of the application required to be completed by the student our school administration can coordinate time during Flex Period where a student may work on their portion of the application. Oversight can be provided so the student may use a computer to work on the digital application, but when such occurs no coaching on personal statements or editing of admissions essays will be given.
* **Special Education** – Students who receive special education services at Telos often want to continue to receive similar ones in their next placement. 504 Plans and accommodations can be coordinated on a case by case basis.
* **Test Records** – If a student completed educational testing at Telos (such as a Woodcock Johnson), a summary report should be collected before a student discharges. College entrance exams like the SAT or ACT also provide scores that should be accessible to parents of students who took them. If your son took one of these exams, please ensure you have access to the College Board profile of your student. In addition, some students are required to take an ISEE or SSAT exam when applying to another boarding school. Arrangements for these tests should be coordinated by parents in consultation with a Telos guidance counselor.
* **Academic Recommendations** – 9th and 10th grade students who are transitioning to another school may need a more detail report regarding their academic profile and a summary of the strategies, interventions, and accommodations that have been employed with the student while he was at Telos. Telos Academy generally can provide this report previous to the Mid-Tx Conference call that occurs near the end of Sun Phase.
  + **HOW DO WE WANT TO REGULATE THIS?**
* **TAS (Therapeutic Aftercare Services)** – Ensure that the TAS coordinator is aware if your son has specific academic recommendations in his after-care plan. Your Aftercare coordinator will assist in the review of that plan when they visit your home after your son discharges from Telos.

**3) My son does not have an IEP or 504 Plan. Can he obtain one before he discharges?**

-IEP’s are coordinated only by the home school district of a student; thus Telos cannot create an IEP. On the other hand, 504 Plans can be recommended by Telos when appropriate. Our Special Education Coordinator is responsible to assist in providing the next school with the documentation required to implement a 504 Plan.

**4) My son has a current IEP. What do I need to do before he transitions to another educational placement?**

-If your student has a current IEP, you will need to have a transition meeting attended by: the Special Ed coordinator and Academic Director, your son’s primary therapist, and representatives from your home school district. The student may be present, but is not required to be. If the student is 15 years old, he legally must be invited to this meeting. Keep your school district informed of the timeline of your son’s discharge and they will set up a transition meeting with the needed indviduals. It is most helpful if you provide them with the email contacts of our Special Ed coordinator to facilitate the set-up of this event.

**5) I would like my son to apply for admission to college. How does Telos help with this?**

-Students who are in 11th or 12th grade may be placed in our Consumer Economics course that is held each year at the Academy. This course has a college exploration component where the students are coached on the foundations of college exploration and given assignments that prepare them to apply to colleges they have interest in. While Telos Academy does not take the lead on the application process, it may supplement the exploration process and help cue the student on the elements of college application that they need to coordinate with their families, education consultants, and other parties.

**6) Does Telos send transcripts to colleges and other programs when needed?**

- Yes. We regularly are contacted by other academic institutions for school records of former students as they apply for placement. Telos will send along electronic or sealed physical copies when requested as long as there is no outstanding billing charges for the student.

**7) Does Telos provide recommendations about other academic programs that my son can transition to?**

-Telos does not provide official referrals or endorsements of other schools/programs, rather we can provide key components of your son’s academic and therapeutic profile that should take highest consideration when exploring possible options. Educational consultants are the primary resource we recommend in assisting families in finding the ideal placement for their son after Telos.

**8) How do I interpret my son’s transcript?**

-Many students admit to Telos with incomplete course credits that have been accumulated over time when they were struggling. For example, a student might arrive with only a half year of Algebra II when a full year is required for graduation. Telos Academy designs class schedules for students to complete these credit requirements wherever possible. Our school counselor can assist you in reviewing the transcript and being alerted to the credits that are incomplete (if any) as your son transitions from Telos. Please notify your next school about any such cases as it will assist in

Before a student discharges, the school counselor reviews the transcript of a student in light of the state where the student is expected to graduate high school. If needed, the school counselor may elect to articulate credit in harmony with that states high school graduation requirements.

For example, Telos Academy offers a Consumer Economics course that satisfies a high school graduation requirement of the state of Utah. If a student takes that course, and subsequently transfers to a school in another state, the school counselor may elect to change the name of this course to Economics (in line with the California high school graduation requirements), or Financial Literary (in line with Florida requirements) on the students transcript. Such articulation only applies to courses that are directly equivalent in content.

**9) I am vetting a number of different options for the next academic placement for my son. They have applications that require teacher recommendation/feedback. Who is responsible to help me get those completed?**

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**10) What actions am I responsible for as a parent?**

**The system should include:**

1.  WHO will teach the parents about our system in these situations?  When will this happen?

 2.  WHO is running point from the ACADEMY?  (Directing the process, Communication with the schools and parents)

3.  WHAT is the ACADEMY responsible for in this process?

4.  WHAT are the PARENTS responsible for in this process?

**Help identifying schools with the needed accommodations and supports – 1 page list of the common supports and which questions to ask when searching out other schools. Telos works best with me by… What do you offer that is comparable?**

We wish the best for your son as he moves on to his next academic placement. If you need additional assistance or explanation regarding this information, please contact Telos Academy by mail or phone.