

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Transition Alliance Program (TAP)
Iowa School for the Deaf
Date: December 4, 2000

Recommended Action:

Approve Iowa School for the Deaf's participation in the Transition Alliance Program (TAP).

Executive Summary:

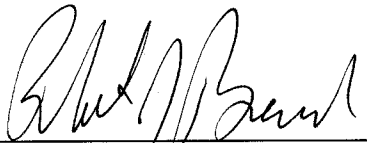
The Iowa School for the Deaf is requesting approval for participation in the Transition Alliance Program (TAP). The TAP program was established as a result of recommendations from the Iowa Transition Project. The TAP program is designed to address identified gaps in service, a major focus of the Iowa Transition Project.

Various studies have shown that youth with disabilities have more difficulty in transitioning from school to work than do other youth. While young people with disabilities have great potential to be employed, they frequently need support services to achieve this goal. TAP will assist youth with disabilities to achieve employment success.

This Program will be supported, half by the Vocational Rehabilitation Services and half by ISD, using the Nebraska tuition funds.

The Iowa School for the Deaf believes this initiative will have significant long-term impact on deaf individuals. This initiative will address a high priority for ISD – that of a more successful transition from high school to post secondary educational programs or to competitive work arrangements. The TAP program will focus on ISD students and other deaf students in Iowa.

Statistically, on a nationwide basis, more than 60% of disabled adults are not working. ISD alumni surveys show that 20-25% of ISD graduates are not employed. The TAP program will assist ISD in addressing this problem.



Robert J. Barak

Approved



Frank J. Stork

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