Thinking about driving?

Did you know...

- A recent CHOP study found one in three autistic teens without intellectual disability successfully got a driver’s license by age 21.
- Several factors may increase the likelihood of getting a license: driving goals on an Individual Educational Plan (IEP), plans to attend college, paid employment, and a parent’s prior experience teaching a teen to drive.

Is driving an option?

- When determining whether driving is appropriate, discuss readiness to drive with a developmental pediatrician, autism support team, or other care provider.
- Check on pre-driving skills by filling out a life skills checklist. To see a checklist, visit: https://transitioncoalition.org/blog/assessment-review/life-skills-inventory-independent-living-skills-assessment-tool/

Do you need help learning to drive?

- Many parents can successfully teach their teens to drive. For clear support on how and what to practice with learner drivers, visit: www.teendriversource.org
- Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialists (CDRS) or Occupational Therapists (OTs) can provide specialized training and advice for drivers with autism.
  - In New Jersey: www.state.nj.us/mvc/drivertopics/driverrehab.htm

What other transportation options exist?

- Safe transportation is available through paratransit services, public transit, taxis, ridesharing services, biking, or navigating as a pedestrian in your community.
- To learn more about these options, visit https://www.carautismroadmap.org/getting-around-its-a-matter-of-independence/

Follow the Center for Injury Research & Prevention's "Research in Action" Blog to keep up with the latest autism and transportation research!

https://injury.research.chop.edu/blog/categories/teen-driver-safety