# TRANSITION BEHAVIOR SCALE THIRD EDITION (TBS-3) 

Stephen B. McCarney, Ed.D. Tamara J. Arthaud, Ph.D.<br>© 2012

The Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition (TBS-3) is a standardized, educationally relevant measure of predicted success in employment and independent living. Areas of concern identified by the TBS-3 can be incorporated in the development of the individualized transition plan.

The TBS-3 measures behavioral characteristics in the areas of

- Work Related,
- Interpersonal Relations, and
- Social/Community Expectations.

During the initial development, the TBS-3 item pool received meticulous review by educational diagnosticians, guidance counselors, educational personnel, and employers which resulted in the 62 items included on the scale. The TBS-3 is available in two versions: School Version, a reporting form for educators, and Self-Report Version, a reporting form for students 12-18 years of age.

The Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition School Version (TBS-3 SV) was standardized on 1,967 students. Demographic characteristics of the standardization population closely approximated national percentages for gender, ethnicity, residence, geographic area, and parental occupation.

Internal consistency of the TBS-3 SV, utilizing the coefficient alpha formula (Cronbach, 1951), was .94 for the total score. Test-retest reliability yielded correlation coefficients exceeding .72 for each of the three subscales. Inter-rater reliability was .75 for the total score. Content validity was established through the initial development process. The TBS-3 SV was compared to the Adaptive Behavior Evaluation Scale-Revised Second Edition: 13-18 Years (McCarney \& Arthaud, 2006), and the Adaptive Behavior Scale-School Second Edition (ABS-S:2) (Lambert, Nihira, \& Leland, 1993) as measures of criterion-related validity. All correlations were significant at the $p<.001$ level.

Both versions of the TBS-3 use frequency-referenced quantifiers. Each item on the School Version is rated on a sixpoint scale of (0) Is Not Developmentally Appropriate For the Student's Age Group, (1) Does Not Demonstrate the Behavior or Skill, (2) Developing the Behavior or Skill, (3) Demonstrates the Behavior or Skill Inconsistently, (4) Demonstrates the Behavior or Skill Most of the Time, and (5) Demonstrates the Behavior or Skill at All times (Consistently). Following administration, six types of scores are obtained: frequency rating for each item (reflecting the frequency and severity of the behavior), subscale raw score (the sum of the frequency ratings), subscale standard score (a consistent basis for comparing students), total score quotient (a global index of predicted success in employment and societal transition), and a total score percentile (another global index of predicted success). The TBS-3 takes approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete and can be completed by anyone familiar with the student: the classroom teacher, clinical personnel, other school personnel, or the parent/guardian.

The TBS-3 complete kit consists of the Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition School and Self-Report Version Rating Forms, Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition School Version Technical Manual, Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition Self-Report Version Technical Manual, and the Transition Behavior Scale IEP and Intervention Manual. The Transition Behavior Scale IEP and Intervention Manual includes goals, objectives, and intervention strategies for the behaviors on the scale. By carefully following assessment results with intervention, the likelihood of student success in employment and independent living is maximized.

Research has proven that behavior exhibited in school/educational situations is the most reliable source of information in predicting success in employment and societal transition. The Transition Behavior Scale-Third Edition is a valid and reliable resource for screening students involved in transition.


# SCHOOL VERSION RATING FORM 

Stephen B. McCarney

## COVER SHEET

## RATING GUIDELINES

- The student should be rated by educational personnel with primary observational opportunities who work directly with the student during instructional situations.
- Ratings should be made conservatively. Choose the quantifier that accurately and objectively represents the student's performance of the behavior.
- If the rater does not have first-hand knowledge and is unsure how to rate an item, it is appropriate for the rater to consult with other personnel to get information about the student's ability in order to complete a rating of the student's skills.
- The rater should rely on his/her observation of the student's behavior as it occurs naturally in the educational environment.
- It is not necessary for the rater to complete the rating in one day. Several days may elapse before the rater is able to complete the scale.
- It is recommended that the rater read each quantifier with the item before rating the item. Using item 1 as an example, the rater would first read, "Is not developmentally appropriate to attempt new assignments," then "Does not attempt new assignments," "Developing attempting new assignments," "Demonstrates attempting new assignments inconsistently," "Demonstrates attempting new assignments most of the time," and finally "Demonstrates attempting new assignments at all times (consistently)."
- If the behavior or skill is developmentally beyond what is expected of the student's age group, the rating should be

IS NOT DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE STUDENT'S AGE GROUP.

- If the student does not possess the behavior or skill, or does not demonstrate the behavior or skill, the rating should be

DOES NOT DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL.

- If the student is beginning to develop or demonstrate the behavior or skill but has not yet mastered it, the rating should be

DEVELOPING THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL.

- If the student has developed the behavior or skill but does not demonstrate it on a regular basis, the rating should be

DEMONSTRATES THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL INCONSISTENTLY.

- If the student has the ability to demonstrate the behavior or skill and performs it successfully except in a few instances, the rating should be


## 4 <br> DEMONSTRATES THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL MOST OF THE TIME.

- If the student consistently demonstrates the behavior or skill successfully in all situations, the rating should be

5
DEMONSTRATES THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL AT ALL TIMES (CONSISTENTLY).


#### Abstract

IMPORTANT $* * *$ PLEASE NOTE: $* * *$ IMPORTANT It is your responsibility as a professional or parent to immediately inform the publisher if you are asked to complete any reproduction of this form. The original form is beige with brown print. If you have this form in any other color, it was illegally reproduced. You are not permitted to complete or use any reproduced form. Hawthorne Educational Services, Inc., will pay a reward of $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 . 0 0}$ for actionable evidence of illegal copying or faxing.


IS NOT

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE STUDENTS AGE GROUP 0

DOES NOT DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL


DEMONSTRATES THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL INCONSISTENTLY

3

DEMONSTRATES
THE BEHAVIOR OR
SKILL MOST OF
THE TIME


DEMONSTRATES THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL AT ALL TIMES (CONSISTENTLY)

5

## WORK RELATED

1. Attempts new assignments
2. Begins assignments after receiving directions, instructions, etc.

5 17. Is organized (e.g., uses time wisely, does not waste materials, has good work habits, etc.)
18. Is dependable (e.g., is on time, prepared, ready to work, etc.)
3. Completes assignments within a specified time period
4. Completes assignments with at least minimal accuracy
5. Completes the required number of assignments in a given period of time
6. Is able to be productive in a group situation (e.g., works at a table with several peers, works at a desk with peers nearby, etc.)
7. Uses time outside of class appropriately performs homework assignments, activity until successful)
8. Responds appropriately demic situations
assignment)
9. Makes a lies, socia

Cele.g., stud-

4 10. Follows writ directions (e.g., from teachers, principals, etc.)

## INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

11. Has necessary materials for specified activities
12. Remains on-task for the required length of time
13. Changes from one activity to another without difficulty (e.g., can stop one activity and begin another, puts materials away and gets ready for another activity, etc.)
14. Demonstrates short-term memory skills (e.g., follows two- and three-step directions)
15. Follows directions without requiring repetition, explanations, etc.
16. Makes responsible decisions on his/her own (eng., uses common sense, logic, etc.)

IS NOT

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE STUDENTS AGE GROUP



DEMONSTRATES
THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL INCONSISTENTLY 3

DEMONSTRATES
THE BEHAVIOR OR
SKILL MOST OF THE TIME

DEMONSTRATES
THE BEHAVIOR OR
SKILL AT ALL TIMES
(CONSISTENTLY)


5
32. Uses communication skills to maintain positive interpersonal relationships with peers
33. Demonstrates appropriate hygiene (egg., wears clean clothing, washes hands, is free from body odor, etc.)
34. Can be relied upon to work cooperatively with peers (eng., shares materials, helps a friend, etc.)
35. Interacts appropriately with a peers) in nonacademic situations (e.g., free time, cafeteria, etc.)
36. Demonstrates appropriate behavior in competitive activities
37. Uses communication skills to maintain posilive interpersonal relationships with authority figures
38. Adjusts easily to new situations (e.g., wo
lions,
40. 67 67 Raw Score

## SOCIAL/COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

41. Is responsible for appropriate care of personal property
42. Responds appropriately to environmental cues (e.g., bells, signs, etc.)
43. Stays in an assigned area for the specified time period (e.g., classroom, building, school grounds, etc.)
44. Follows the rules of the classroom
45. Demonstrates appropriate behavior in nonacademic settings (eng., hallways, restrooms, cafeteria, library, etc.)

5 46. Demonstrates appropriate behavior in an academic group setting

5 47. Behaves appropriately in the absence of supervision (e.g., instructor is detained)

4 48. Responds appropriately to redirection in social situations (egg., when asked to be quiet, when told to move on to class, etc.)

4 49. Follows verbal directions (e.g., from teachers, principals, etc.)

4 50. Comes to an activity at the specified time
51. Is in attendance given (e.g., 129 ci, substitute teacher, etc.)
55. Accepts change in an established routine (e.g., change in schedule)

5 56. Demonstrates appropriate use of school-related materials (e.g., supplies and equipment)

5 57. Demonstrates appropriate care and handling of others' property
58. Adjusts behavior to expectations of different situations (e.g., free time, assemblies, cafeteria, classroom, etc.)

5 59. Is honest (e.g., does not cheat or steal)
60. Uses supplies or operates equipment and machinery safely

5 61. Does not possess or use drugs or alcohol at school
62. Demonstrates the ability to control temper (eeg., does not resort to verbal or physical aggression when frustrated, angry, etc.)

Stephen B. McCarney
PROFILE SHEET

| Name of |  |  |  |  | SUM | ARY OF SC | RES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| School: Mide | ale 7 | Schoal |  | Subscales |  | Raw Score | Standard Score (Appendix A) | Standard Score SEM (Appendix C) |
| Class: Sac | al Stu |  | Grade: 8 | Work Related |  | 110 | 12 | . 78 |
| City: Mid |  |  | State: PAA |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Interpersonal | elations | 67 | 12 | 1.44 |
| Date of rating: | $\frac{2011}{\text { (year) }}$ | $\frac{18}{\text { (month) }}$ | $\frac{15}{(\text { day })}$ | Social/Commu Expectation |  | 99 | 11 | 1.06 |
| Date of birth: | 1997 | 10 | 15 |  |  | OTAL SCOR |  |  |
| Age at rating: | (year) <br> 14 | (month) 2 | $\begin{gathered} \text { (day) } \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $$ | Quotien <br> (Appendix B) | Percentile | Quotient SEM (Appendix C | Confidence Interval |
|  | (years) | (months) | (days) | 35 | 108 | 71 | 3.42 | $95 \%$ |


| Standard Scores | SUBSCALES |  |  | Quotients | Quotient | Percentiles | Percentile |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Work Related | Interpersonal Relations | Social/Community Expectations |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 150 | $\bullet$ | $\geq 99$ | $\bullet$ |
| 19 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 145 | - | 95 | $\bullet$ |
| 18 | - | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 140 | - | 90 | - |
| 17 | - | - | - | 135 | - | 85 | - |
| 16 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 130 | $\bullet$ | 80 | $\bullet$ |
| 15 | - | - | - | 125 | - | 75 | $\bullet$ |
| 14 | - | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 120 | - | 70 | $x$ |
| 13 | - | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 115 | - | 65 | - |
| 12 | $x$ | - | $\bullet$ | 110 | \% | 60 | $\bullet$ |
| 11 |  | $\bullet$ | $x$ | 105 | $\bullet$ | 55 | $\bullet$ |
| 10 | $\bigcirc$ | $\bullet$ | $\rightarrow$ | 100 | - | 50 | $\bigcirc$ |
| 9 | - | - | - | 95 | $\bullet$ | 45 | - |
| 8 | - | - | - | 90 | - | 40 | - |
| 7 | - | - | - | 85 | - | 35 | $\bullet$ |
| 6 | - | - | $\bullet$ | 80 | - | 30 | - |
| 5 | - | - | $\bullet$ | 75 | - | 25 | $\bullet$ |
| 4 | - | - | - | 70 | - | 20 | - |
| 3 | - | - | - | 65 | $\bullet$ | 15 | - |
| 2 | - | - | - | 60 | - | 10 | - |
| 1 | - | - | $\bullet$ | 55 | - | 5 | $\bullet$ |
|  |  |  |  | 50 | - | $\leq 1$ | - |

TBS-3 SV
Copyright © 2012
Hawthorne Educational Services, Inc.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

# SELF-REPORT VERSION RATING FORM 

Stephen B. McCarney

## COVER SHEET

## RATING GUIDELINES

- The rater should rate his/her behavior as the behavior/skill occurs naturally in the home and school environments.
- The rater should rate himself/herself using the quantifiers (0-4) provided. Do not leave any boxes blank.
- Adults in the school setting can assist the rater with reading items and understanding quantifiers. However, they should not try to influence a rater's ratings.
- It is not necessary for the rater to complete the rating in one day. Several days may elapse before the rating is completed.
- It is recommended that the rater read each quantifier with the item before rating the item. Using item 1 as an example, the rater would first read, "I do not try to do work that is new to me," then "I am developing trying to do work that is new to me," "I try inconsistently to do work that is new to me," "I try most of the time to do work that is new to me," and finally "I try at all times to do work that is new to me (consistently)."
- If the rater does not possess the behavior or skill, or does not demonstrate the behavior or skill, the rating should be

0
DO NOT DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL.

- If the rater is beginning to develop or demonstrate the behavior or skill but has not yet mastered it, the rating should be


DEVELOPING THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL.

- If the rater has developed the behavior or skill but does not demonstrate it on a regular basis, the rating should be


## 2 <br> DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL INCONSISTENTLY.

- If the rater has the ability to demonstrate the behavior or skill and performs it successfully except in a few instances, the rating should be

3
DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL MOST OF THE TIME.

- If the rater consistently demonstrates the behavior or skill successfully in all situations, the rating should be


## IMPORTANT $* * *$ PLEASE NOTE: $* * *$ IMPORTANT

It is your responsibility as a professional or parent to immediately inform the publisher if you are asked to complete any reproduction of this form. The original form is beige with brown print. If you have this form in any other color, it was illegally reproduced. You are not permitted to complete or use any reproduced form. Hawthorne Educational Services, Inc., will pay a reward of $\$ 100.00$ for actionable evidence of illegal copying or faxing.

TO RATER: Rate yourself using the quantifiers (0-4) provided. Every item must be rated. Do not leave any boxes blank.

| DO NOT | DEMONSTRATE | DEMONSTRATE | DEMONSTRATE |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DEMONSTRATE | DEVELOPING | THE BEHAVIOR OR | THE BEHAVIOR OR | THE BEHAVIOR OR |
| THE BEHAVIOR | THE BEHAVIOR | SKILL | SKILL MOST OF | SKILL AT ALL TIMES |
| OR SKILL | OR SKILL | INCONSISTENTLY | THE TIME | (CONSISTENTLY) |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. I try to do work that is new to me
2. I start working on assignments after I have been given directions, instructions, etc.

3 18. I get started on things $I$ am supposed to do without someone telling me to begin (e.g., get busy rather than doing nothing, make good choices, etc.)
3. My work is finished when it is supposed to be done
4. I get a passing grade on the work I finish
5. I can do my work when I have other people close to me (e.g., work at a table with several peers, work at a desk with peers nearby, etc.)
6. I do not waste my time when I am not in class (e.g., do homework, study, etc.)
7. I do not get upset when $I$ am told/asked change something in school (e.g., corr
an assignment)
8. I do not waste time whe want to do
9. I follow div
10. I make s activities
11. I keep work it is time to stop
12. I can stop one activity and start another one without a problem (e.g., can stop one activity and begin another, put materials away and get ready for another activity, etc.)
13. I can follow two or three-step directions without asking for the directions to be repeated
14. I follow directions without needing them to be repeated, explained, etc.
15. I make good choices by myself (e.g., use common sense, logic, etc.)
16. I am organized (e.g., have a place for materials, do not waste time, have good work habits, etc.)
17. I do the things $I$ am supposed to do when $I$ am supposed to do them (e.g., in attendance, on time, prepared, ready to work, etc.)

## INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

25. I do not get upset or angry when others accidentally bump, touch, or brush against me
26. I do not get upset or angry at friendly teasing (e.g., jokes, sarcastic remarks, name calling, etc.)
27. I care about the way I look (e.g., comb hair, wear clean clothing, etc.)
28. I figure out ways for others to get along when they are upset (e.g., discuss, reason, compromise, etc.)
29. I join in activities outside the classroom (e.g., sports, clubs, etc.)
30. I get along well with others in classroom/work activities (e.g., get involved in discussions, projects, etc.)
31. I keep friends by talking kindly to them
32. I keep myself clean (e.g., clean hands, face, and hair; free of body odor; change clothing when appropriate; etc.)

DO NOT DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL

0

DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL INCONSISTENTLY

DEMONSTRATE
THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL MOST OF THE TIME

DEMONSTRATE THE BEHAVIOR OR SKILL AT ALL TIMES (CONSISTENTLY)

3
33. My friends/classmates know I am easy to work with in the classroom (e.g., share materials, help a friend, etc.)

34. I get along with others outside of the classroom (e.g., free time, cafeteria, etc.)
35. I am a good sport in competitive activities
36. I speak respectfully when talking to teachers and other adults
37. I do not get upset in new situations (e.g., work with individuals I do not know, adjust to new surroundings, etc.)

38. I am well-behaved and not easily upset by others

39. I am a loyal friend and group member am dependable, participate, take ro ity, etc.)
41. I follow rule rlections given by signs or sounds, (e.g., bells, sirens, "Don't Walk," etc.)
42. I stay where $I$ have been told to stay until it is time to leave (e.g., classroom, building, school grounds, etc.)
43. I follow the rules of the classroom
44. I am well-behaved outside the classroom (e.g., hallway, restroom, cafeteria, library, etc.)
45. I behave when I am in a group during school activities $\qquad$ Raw Score

# SELF-REPORT VERSION RATING FORM 

## Stephen B. McCarney

PROFILE SHEET


| Standard Scores | SUBSCALES |  |  | Quotients | Quotient | Percentiles | Percentile Rank |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Work Related | Interpersonal Relations | Social/Community Expectations |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | - | - | - | 150 | - | $\geq 99$ | - |
| 19 | - | $\bullet$ | - | 145 | - | 95 | - |
| 18 | - | - | - | 140 | - | 90 | $\bullet$ |
| 17 | - | - | - | 135 | - | 85 | - |
| 16 | - | - | - | 130 | $\bullet$ | 80 | - |
| 15 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | - | 125 | $\bullet$ | 75 | $\bullet$ |
| 14 | - | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 120 | $\bullet$ | 70 | $\bullet$ |
| 13 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 115 | - | 65 | - |
| 12 | - | - | - | 110 | - | 60 | * |
| 11 | $\bullet$ | \% | - | 105 |  | 55 | $\bullet$ |
| 10 | * | - | * | 100 | $\underline{8}$ | 50 | $\rightarrow$ |
| 9 | - | - | - | 95 | - | 45 | - |
| 8 | - | - | - | 90 | - | 40 | $\bullet$ |
| 7 | - | - | - | 85 | - | 35 | $\bullet$ |
| 6 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | 80 | - | 30 | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | 75 | $\bullet$ | 25 | - |
| 4 | - | - |  | 70 | - | 20 | $\bullet$ |
| 3 | $\bullet$ | $\bullet$ | - | 65 | $\bullet$ | 15 | - |
| 2 | - | - | - | 60 | - | 10 | - |
| 1 | - | $\bullet$ | - | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \\ & 50 \end{aligned}$ | $\bullet$ | 5 $\leq 1$ | $\bullet$ |

TBS-3 S-RV
Copyright © 2012
Hawthorne Educational Services, Inc.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

## III. Goals, Objectives, and Interventions

## 1 Attempts new assignments

## Goal:

1. The student will attempt new assignments.

## Objectives:

1. The student will attempt new assignments/activities with physical assistance on $\qquad$ out of
$\qquad$ trials.
2. The student will attempt new assignments/activities with verbal prompts on $\qquad$ out of $\qquad$ trials.
3. The student will attempt new assignments/activities with peer assistance on $\qquad$ out of $\qquad$ trials.
4. The student will independently attempt new assignments/activities on $\qquad$ out of $\qquad$ trials.
5. The student will attempt new assignments/activities within $\qquad$ (indicate a given time period).

## Interventions:

1. Present the task in the most interesting, attractive manner possible.
2. Maintain mobility to provide assistance for the student.
3. Structure time units so they Sall exactly how long he/she has
the work must be finiry
 increase the probability of understanding (e.g., if the student fails to understand verbal directions, present them in written form).
4. Have the student repeat the directions verbally to the teacher.
5. Give a signal (e.g., clapping hands, turning lights off and on, etc.) before giving verbal directions.
6. Provide the student with a predetermined signal when he/she is not beginning a task (e.g., verbal cue, hand signal, etc.).
7. Tell the student that directions will only be given once.
8. Follow a less desirable task with a highly desirable task; make the completion of the first task necessary to perform the second.
9. Provide the student with shorter tasks given more frequently.
10. Provide the student with a schedule of daily events so he/she knows exactly what and how much there is to do in a day.
11. Prevent the student from becoming overstimulated by an activity (e.g., frustrated, angry, etc.).
12. Specify exactly what is to be done for the completion of a task (e.g., make definite starting and stopping points, identify a minimum requirement, etc.)
13. Require the student to begin each assignment within a specified period of time (e.g., three minutes, five minutes, etc.).
