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SPECIAL EDUCATION

THE IMPACT OF THE CAREER AND SELF-ADVOCACY PROGRAM ON THE
SELF-DETERMINATION SKILLS OF YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES (121 PP.)

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The purpose of this study was to measure the impact of the Career and Self-Advocacy Program (CASAP) on students' level of self-determination and attainment of transition related goals. A Goal Attainment Scaling (GAS) process measured how well participants achieved their goals and the AIR Self-Determination Scale served to measure the students' self-determination skills.

A total of ten students with learning disabilities and cognitive disabilities participated in this study. Parents and educators provided input for the students' goals and rated the students after the program concluded. Parents, educators, and students completed the AIR Self-Determination scale. Descriptive statistics, analysis of variance, and correlation methods were applied to the data in order to address the questions of interest.

Overall, a majority of the students achieved their transition related goals as assessed through the GAS. Pre and post program differences were found for capacity for self-determination, but not for opportunity for self-determination, however opportunities at school were more easily connected to teaching self-determination to students with disabilities.