

College Experience Programs for Students with Disabilities

Think College

<http://www.thinkcollege.net>

National organization dedicated to developing, expanding and improving inclusive higher education options for people with an intellectual disability.

New York State

1. The College Experience at The College of Saint Rose

300 Washington Ave Extension

Albany, NY 12203

Colleen Dergosits, Coordinator of Student Life and Admissions

(518) 218-0000 x4625

Website: <https://thecollegeexperience.org/>

The College Experience is a certificate program that gives students with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to attend college, be part of a campus community, and take part in a program that helps them transition to independent adult life. Collaboratively developed by The College of Saint Rose and Living Resources, The College Experience program combines general education courses, elective courses, and real world living and job experiences to prepare students for success in the real world.

2. Syracuse University- Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusion in Higher Education - InclusiveU

300 Huntington Hall

Syracuse, NY 13244- 2340

(315) 443- 4058

Email: taishoffcenter@syr.edu

Website: <https://taishoffcenter.syr.edu/inclusiveu/>

InclusiveU brings students of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities who want to experience college life in a fully inclusive setting to Syracuse University. We offer REAL opportunities for our students to participate in every aspect of campus life. SU coursework, sporting and social events, and our strong, inclusive community are what makes InclusiveU a success. We offer REAL opportunities for our students to participate in every aspect of campus life. SU coursework, sporting and social events, and our strong, inclusive community are what makes InclusiveU a success.

3. Otsego Academy at Pathfinder Village

3 Chenango Road
Edmeston, NY 13335
(607) 965- 8377
Email: otsegoacademy@pathfindervillage.com
Website: <https://otsegoacademy.org/>

Otsego Academy is a place where students with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities will embrace a love of learning on their path to adulthood and greater independence. The two-year transition program offers young adults opportunities to develop and refine independent living skills in a residential setting. For most students this is their first time living away from home. Our specialized setting provides the support students need to grow in capability and confidence. The path to future employment begins through various career exploration activities and hands-on training experiences through internships at Pathfinder Village and businesses in the local community.

4. BRIDGES Program- SUNY Orange- Orange County Community College

115 South Street
Middleton, NY 10940
(845) 341-4694
Email: patriciabassey@sunyorange.edu
Website: <http://www.sunyorange.edu/BRIDGES>

BRIDGES is an inclusive post secondary education experience for young adults (age 21 or have exited high school) with ID, DD, and ASD. Born of the growing belief that individuals with intellectual or cognitive disabilities have the right to experience collegiate life in a way that is appropriate to meet their needs and advance their long-term goals, BRIDGES joins a growing roster of similar programs throughout the state and country. BRIDGES offers academic and career exploration for students with varying abilities through a student-centered, learner active and customized course of study designed to meet individual interests, skills and goals. The program has three areas of academic focus: social skills, vocational preparation, life skills.

5. Impact U at Concordia College

Concordia College
171 White Plains Rd
Bronxville, NY 10708
(914) 337- 9300 ex 2172
Email: Eleanor.Evangelista@concordia-ny.edu
Website: <https://www.concordia-ny.edu/admission/impactu>

Impact U is an immersive, 2-year, post-secondary program of Concordia College where adults aged 18-26 with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive the supports and safeguards

they need to participate fully in an inclusive college-living experience - on campus with traditional college students. Students audit college level classes open to all students, share access to all campus facilities, activities and events, and live in an integrated residence hall among traditional Concordia College students. Impact U offers access to college life among same age typical peers as a means to safely and successfully increase autonomy and independent living skills. Impact U prepares students for employability in competitive, integrated job settings. Students engage in job readiness skills through prevocational training and supported employment in on-campus internships the first year, and possible off-campus internships the second year. Students graduate with a Certificate of Applied Learning and a resume of work experiences.

6. MOST Program at Molloy College

Molloy College
1000 Hempstead Ave
P. O. Box 5002
Rockville Centre, NY 11571-5002
(516) 323-3550
Email: MOSTadmissions@gmail.com
Website: [MOST Program](#)

MOST is designed to afford a college experience to developmentally disabled adults from the ages of 22-27 years old. The Molloy Opportunity for Successful Transition is a program designed for individuals with developmental disabilities to attend classes to increase social and academic skills. Classes will be given at the Molloy College Rockville Centre Campus. The program course areas include health, wellness, budgeting, literacy, citizenship and employment. MOST allows students to connect and interact with peers on campus. The program is designed for three years, building upon skills gained in previous semesters. The program is designed so that the students gain academic and social skills that will allow the student to transition into employment.

Other States

7. ClemsonLIFE at Clemson University

102 Tillman Hall
Clemson, SC 29634
(864) 656-7656
Email: clemsonlife@clemson.edu
Website: <http://clemson.edu/education/research/program/culife/>

The ClemsonLIFE program at Clemson University is designed for students with intellectual disabilities who desire a postsecondary experience on a college campus, through a combination of academic coursework and career exploration.

8. College Living Experience

Various Locations

(800) 486-5058

Email: [info @ ExperienceCLE.com](mailto:info@ExperienceCLE.com)

Website: <https://experiencecle.com/>

College Living Experience (CLE) is the industry's leading provider of post-secondary support for young adults with learning differences. Dedicated to providing the highest quality of services, we strive to propel young adults toward success as they journey through their transition to independence. CLE students pursue their academic program or career of interest while also receiving services across the domains of independent living and social skill development.

9. The Dan Marino Foundation

400 North Andrews Ave

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

(954) 368-6000

Email: info@danmarinofoundation.org

Website: <https://danmarinofoundation.org/>

Marino Campus is a licensed post-secondary institution that offers educational programs designed to prepare young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities for gainful employment, social growth, and independent living. Programs are delivered to students by caring and qualified faculty and staff through an innovative, engaging and supportive learning environment.

10. George Mason University

Division of Special Education and disability Research

4400 University Drive, MSN 1F2

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Phone: (703)993-3905

Website: <https://masonlife.gmu.edu/>

The Mason LIFE Program is an innovative post-secondary program for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who desire a university experience in a supportive academic environment.

11. The Horizons School

2018 15th Ave

Birmingham, AL 35205

(205) 322-6606

Email: info@horizonsschools.org

Website: <https://horizonsschool.org/>

The Horizons School provides a community-based educational program promoting successful transition to independent living for young adults with learning disabilities, autism spectrum and developmental disorders.

12. Lesley University- Threshold Program

29 Everett St, Cambridge, MA 02138

(617) 868-9600

Email: threshold@lesley.edu

Website: <https://lesley.edu/threshold-program>

Threshold at Lesley University is a non-degree post secondary program for young adults with diverse learning, developmental, and intellectual disabilities.

13. Mercyhurst University, Autism Initiative

501 East 38th Street

Erie, Pennsylvania 16546

Bradley McGarry, Director, Autism Initiative at Mercyhurst

(814) 824-2451

Email: bmcgarry@mercyhurst.edu

Website: <https://www.mercyhurst.edu/academics/autism-initiative-mercyhurst>

The mission of the Autism Initiative at Mercyhurst (AIM) is to facilitate and support the successful adjustment and progression of college students on the autism spectrum in all domains of college life, thereby broadening their vocational opportunities, and enhancing social and community engagement. The AIM program strives to accentuate each student's abilities within the academic, social, emotional, and independent living domains, while building new skills within the domains where the student may be deficient.

14. Rutgers University- The College Support Program

152 Frelinghuysen Rd

Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020

(848) 445-2000

Email: csp-info@rutgers.edu

Website: <http://gsapp.rutgers.edu/csp>

The College Support Program (CSP) is a unit of the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services RCAAS. The CSP supports Rutgers University students on the autism spectrum as they begin, continue and prepare to graduate from the University. It is a comprehensive program that assists students through the provision of direct support and collaboration with University services that address executive functioning, social competence, academic skills, self-care, self-advocacy, and career preparation.

15. Thames at Mitchell College

Amanda Marino, Director of Admissions

437 Pequot Ave

New London, CT 06320

(860) 701-5011

Email: marino_a@mitchell.edu

Website: <https://mitchell.edu/thames/>

Thames at Mitchell College is a holistic college transition program for students with learning differences or students who would benefit from additional preparation to succeed in college—and it's right on the campus of Mitchell College, which has been long-recognized for its innovative support for students with learning differences. This unique program offers a highly individualized learning environment and a strong social network that feels safe and supportive.