Next Steps at Vanderbilt Ambassadors
Assisting students with intellectual disabilities in their college experience

What is Next Steps at Vanderbilt?
The first postsecondary education program for individuals with intellectual disabilities in Tennessee. The mission is to provide transformational learning experiences, within an inclusive educational setting, for young adults with intellectual disabilities, university students, faculty, staff, and community leaders.

What is an Ambassadore?
A Vanderbilt student who is committed to building a strong one-to-one relationship with a Next Steps at Vanderbilt student with an intellectual disability.

Who can become an Ambassadore?
Any Vanderbilt student. Ambassadors will be caring, responsible students who have a strong desire to help others to reach their full potential.

What are the requirements?
Ambassadors contribute 2-4 hours per week for one semester. You can help in the mornings or afternoons. While hours will be the same each week, they can be set to fit your schedule.

What do Ambassadors do with the students?
Ambassadors help Next Steps students with:
- Academic tasks, such as one-on-one tutoring.
- Daily living skills, such as exercising together or checking e-mail.
- Social skills, such as relaxing at the Commons, eating lunch, or going to a campus sporting event together.
- Employment skills, such as on-the-job support at internship sites.

“Everybody has their own unique life stories and experiences they bring into any new relationship, but in this instance I think everybody has so much more to learn from each other.”

Grace, VU undergraduate and
Next Steps at Vanderbilt Ambassadore

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