



# Transition From School to Inclusive Higher Education

## Local and National Resources

### Think College

Think College is a resource available for students, families, and professionals. The website includes a national database of inclusive higher education programs available to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, policy briefs, newsletters, and more. Think College is an initiative of the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts. [www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net)

### Healthy and Ready for College!

When students with intellectual disabilities are getting ready to go to college, who will provide health care is just one of many issues that families and students may need to discuss. This brief focuses on health care transitions and provides strategies that can be used in college and afterward to help young people stay healthy and ready for the future. [www.thinkcollege.net/images/stories/Insight8.pdf](http://www.thinkcollege.net/images/stories/Insight8.pdf)

### Going To College

Going To College contains information on college life for students with disabilities. It is designed for high school students. [www.going-to-college.org/](http://www.going-to-college.org/)

### HEATH Resource Center

Information about educational support services, policies, procedures, adaptations, and opportunities at American campuses, vocational-technical schools, and other inclusive higher education training entities.

<https://heath.gwu.edu/>

### Professional Development Modules in Inclusive Higher Education for Students with Disabilities

These modules are meant for college faculty and provide information on teaching students with disabilities and other diverse learners, with the goal of improving student retention and matriculation rates. They have developed three modules on Universal Design for Learning, Mentoring in Postsecondary Education, and Multiculturalism.

[www.ist.hawaii.edu/modules/](http://www.ist.hawaii.edu/modules/)

### AHEAD White Paper on Students with Intellectual Disabilities and Campus Disability Services

AHEAD provides information and tools from various sources to help disability service professionals enhance their work. This brief explores developing inclusive programs in higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities and the impacts on traditional DRS services. [www.ahead.org/nsip/service\\_org/links](http://www.ahead.org/nsip/service_org/links)

### A Practical Guide for Students with Disabilities Who Want to Go to College

A Guide that provides information about finding the right school, paying for college, and locating supports relating to students' disabilities while at school. Includes information about job searches after college. [http://tucollaborative.org/pdfs/education/College\\_Guide.pdf](http://tucollaborative.org/pdfs/education/College_Guide.pdf)

### Making Choices: Exploring Campus Recreational and Social Opportunities

An article written to facilitate participation in campus recreational and social opportunities. This is a practical tool with the ultimate goal of enhancing the college and university experience. [www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/irca/recreation2011.pdf](http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/irca/recreation2011.pdf)

### Transition of Students with Disabilities to Post-Secondary Education: A Guide for High School Educators

This publication is currently available to order from the ED Pubs website at [www.edpubs.gov/](http://www.edpubs.gov/) or by calling toll free, 1-877-4-ED-PUBS (1-877-433-7827).

### Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

This publication is currently available to order from the ED Pubs website at [www.edpubs.gov/](http://www.edpubs.gov/) or by calling toll free, 1-877-4-ED-PUBS (1-877-433-7827).



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### Access to Postsecondary Education

A handbook that guides students through the process of navigating the journey to college. Although it was written by the Kentucky Department of Education, the ideas in the handbook are applicable to all students with disabilities. [www.ahead.org/uploads/affiliates/kyahead/Access%20to%20Postsecondary%20Education.pdf](http://www.ahead.org/uploads/affiliates/kyahead/Access%20to%20Postsecondary%20Education.pdf)

### Tennessee Department of Education, Division of Special Education

The purpose of the Division is to “promote educational services and programs for all Tennessee’s children with special education needs that will enable them to lead productive and independent lives.” (888) 212-3162, <https://tn.gov/education/topic/special-education>

### STEP (Support and Training for Exceptional Parents)

STEP provides free information, advocacy training, and support services to parents of children who are eligible to receive special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and who reside in Tennessee. (800) 280-STEP, [www.tnstep.org](http://www.tnstep.org).

### Vanderbilt Resources

#### Vanderbilt Kennedy Center (VKC)

The VKC works with and for people with disabilities and their family members, service providers and advocates, researchers and policy makers. It is among only a few centers nationwide to be a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, a *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, and a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Training Program. [vkc.vumc.org](http://vkc.vumc.org)

### Tennessee Disability Pathfinder

Pathfinder is a free statewide phone, web, and print referral service in English and Spanish. It connects the Tennessee disability community with service providers and resources. Its website database has over 3,000 agencies searchable by Tennessee county and service. Pathfinder is a project of the VKC, TN Council on Developmental Disabilities, TN Department of Health, and the TN Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. (615) 322-8529, toll-free (800) 640-4636 [www.familypathfinder.org](http://www.familypathfinder.org)

### Employment of Persons with Disabilities

The VKC is committed to working in the area of employment of persons with disabilities. Activities promote meaningful work for youth and adults with disabilities through model service programs and technical assistance, training, research, and information sharing. [www.tennesseeworks.org](http://www.tennesseeworks.org)

### Next Steps at Vanderbilt

A 4-year certification program for students with intellectual disabilities, providing individualized Programs of Study in the areas of education, social skills, and vocational training on a college campus. [vu.edu/nextsteps](http://vu.edu/nextsteps)

### Tennessee Inclusive Higher Education Alliance

This Task Force works to increase awareness about the need for inclusive higher education opportunities in Tennessee, to gather information about inclusive higher education programs in other states, and to encourage more programs on campuses across Tennessee. <http://tnihealliance.org>

**Contact the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center**  
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**[kc@vumc.org](mailto:kc@vumc.org)**