

# Inclusive Higher Education Webinar





**Founded in 2014**

To create inclusive college opportunities in Colorado for students with intellectual disabilities to foster academic growth, social development and career advancement.

# Graduation...It's like falling off a cliff



# Inclusive Higher Education vs. Disability Services

- All schools offer disability services, not all offer inclusive services
  - You might not always know what is right for a student
- Helpful hints
  - Intellectual or developmental disability
  - Not accepted via traditional means
  - Needs support in various domains (social, career, academic, etc.)
  - Modifications vs. accommodations

## Accommodations

- Extra time
- Speech to text device
- Special seating assignment
- Frequent breaks

## Modifications

- Shorter reading assignment
- Length of paper
- Alternate assessments

# Relevant Legislation

- 2008 Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act Reauthorization
  - Authorizes demonstration program for inclusive higher education
  - Establishes national coordinating center (Think College)
- Colorado Senate Bill 196: Inclusive Higher Education Act of 2016
  - Collaborative effort between IN!, The Arc of Colorado, JFK Partners, Senators Bill Cadman & John Cooke, Reps. Dave Young & Lois Landgraf



# Inclusive Higher Education

- 100% supported by the institution
- Students with intellectual disabilities are included in academic classes and social activities on college campuses with students without disabilities
  - In other words, students have full access to the school
- Students enjoy all the rights and responsibilities afforded any other student
- Students receive individualized modifications and accommodations

# Impact of Inclusive Higher Education

- Higher wage earnings
- Increased job diversity
- More social relationships
- Continued independent living
- And more!



# Inclusive Higher Education in Colorado



***Advocacy, oversight, funding***



UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTHERN  
COLORADO



**UCCS**

Inclusive Services

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
COLORADO SPRINGS



JFK Partners

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO  
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

***Work with students***

***Evaluation***



## Colorado Schools

Each school tailors its program  
to their unique culture

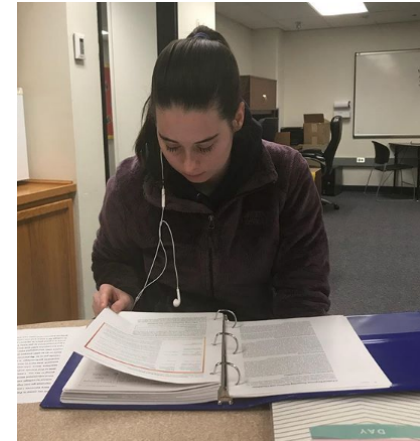


# Admission

- Have completed high school (no SAT / ACT required)
- Have a documented intellectual or developmental disability
- Be able to participate in class and campus activities with support
- Desire to go to college
- Express an interest to live and work as independently as possible

# Overview

- Academics
  - 3 classes per semester
    - 1 class designed for students with intellectual disabilities
- Social
  - Peer mentors
  - Join campus activities



**College is more than coursework;  
it's a time to develop as an individual**

# Overview

- Career
  - Job coaching
  - Internships
- Completion
  - Earn a nationally recognized credential
  - Students leave college prepared for employment



# Housing Options

- Arapahoe Community College
  - No on-campus housing
- University of Northern Colorado
  - Dorm living
  - Support provided by resident assistant and residence life peer mentors
- University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
  - On campus apartments
  - Some students use the Supported Living Services waiver for outside support

# Financial Information

- Tuition and fees
- Program fee for inclusive services (UNC and UCCS)
- Room and board, if applicable
- Funding options
  - DVR
  - Scholarships
  - College funds/ABLE accounts
  - Financial aid coming

\*For more financial information, please contact each school directly

# Preparing for College



# Individualized Education Programs

- Include the student as the IEP leader to develop choice making and self-determination
- Educate IEP participants on the college options available
- Utilize Think College resources for IEP goal development
- Note: Students with IDD tend to have the fewest postsecondary goals in their transition plans

Ankeny & Lehmann, 2010; Habib, 2017; Plotner & May, 2017

Last updated 12/11/18

# Inclusion as College Preparation



Early inclusion is an important component of transitioning students to inclusive communities when they finish k-12 schooling

# Preparing for Higher Education

- Encourage students to dream!
  - Many students with disabilities are never asked if they want to go to college
- Discuss the student's disability
- Prepare for independence
  - Self-advocacy, learning from failure, self-care, decision making



# Skills for Higher Education

- Work on:
  - Communication skills
  - Coordinating a schedule
  - Navigating and travel
  - Managing money transactions
  - Developing healthy habits
  - Safety and appropriate behavior

# Finding the Right College

All students need to think about factors such as the size of the college, its location, and whether or not to live on campus or at home.

- Considerations:
  - Is there a counselor at the high school that meets with other students to discuss college options?
  - Are there college visits or fairs in which students with disabilities are not included?

*Together we can redefine  
what is possible  
for students with disabilities!*

# Contact Us

\*For more information on inclusive higher education, check out ThinkCollege.net

**Website:** [inclusivehighered.org](http://inclusivehighered.org)

**Outreach Coordinator:** Shelby Bates

- Email: [shelbyb@inclusivehighered.org](mailto:shelbyb@inclusivehighered.org)
- Phone: 720-580-1277

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# Partners

IN! is fortunate to have strategic partners who have the shared belief that individuals with ID should have the opportunity to pursue a college education that provides the potential for achieving a more fulfilling and independent life.

## PhD Sponsors



Leola  
Woodworth

## Masters Sponsors

Macsovits Family



## Associate's Sponsors



Dr. Cordelia  
Robinson Rosenberg



Lynn Robinson  
& Larry Bass

