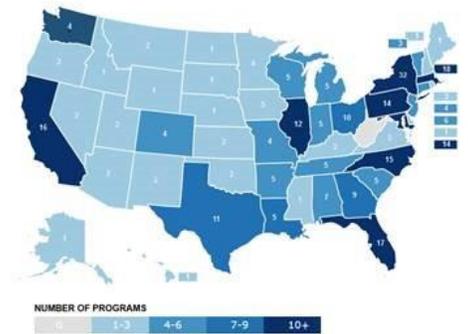


Postsecondary Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

What is Postsecondary Education for Student with Intellectual Disabilities?

A growing mix of college options for people with intellectual disabilities. There are 279 programs at community colleges, colleges, and universities across the country where students with intellectual disabilities are included with their nondisabled peers in postsecondary education.



What are TPSIDs?

Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities or TPSIDs are demonstration projects funded by the US Department of Education as authorized under the Higher Education Act. They provide high quality, inclusive postsecondary and transition programs for students with intellectual disabilities.

What is a program like for students?

TIPSIDs and other inclusive postsecondary education programs offer comprehensive college experiences for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities which includes individualized and inclusive coursework, person-centered planning, professional internships to provide marketable, transferable job skills, and social and extracurricular activities. Students can select university classes based on their interests and participate in on-campus activities and student organizations.

How do these programs make a difference?

After completing the TIPSID program, students who obtained a paid job while enrolled were almost 15 times more likely to have a paid job at exit than those who did not.^[1] One year after completing the TPSID program, 65% of former students had a paid job compared to 17% of adults with developmental disabilities in the general population.^[2]



How can you support and champion these programs?

The Higher Education Act created the TIPSID model demonstration programs. Support the inclusion of these programs as a priority in any reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.



[1] Grigal, M., Papay, C., Hart D., Smith F.A., & Verbeck, R. Experiences that predict employment for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in federally funded higher education programs. *Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals*. 2019; 42:17-28

[2] Grigal, M., Hart, D., Smith, F., Papay, C., & Domin, D. (2018). *Year Three Annual Report of the TPSID Model Demonstration Projects (2017–2018)*. Boston, MA: University of Massachusetts Boston, Institute for Community Inclusion.