



Leadership & Career Studies



Leadership & Career Studies at the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University provides an authentic four-year college experience for students with intellectual disability and autism.

The program develops students' academic abilities, career skills and social maturity while promoting self-determination and independence so that graduates live the life of their choosing as productive citizens in the community.

REQUIREMENTS

Students must have an intellectual disability or autism as documented through the County Office of Intellectual Disabilities in which the student resides. Students must also:

- Be ages 18-26;
- Have the ability to pay for classes through service funds, grants or privately;
- Have transportation to Temple's main campus;
- Be available to attend day and evening classes;
- Participate in extracurricular activities for a minimum of 10 hours per week.

PRINCIPLES

In Leadership & Career Studies, students:

- Select courses based on their interests;
- Participate in a variety of employment experiences related to their career goals;
- Develop relationships with Temple classmates as they set and achieve academic, career, and personal goals; and
- Determine and direct the supports they need.



COACHES

Each student in Leadership & Career Studies is matched with a Temple student coach who supports them in accessing the university's rich resources. Current Temple students in good standing are recruited, hired, trained, and supervised by Leadership & Career Studies staff at the Institute on Disabilities to serve as effective and supportive mentors. Coaches support students as they participate in academic, recreational, and social activities.

COMPONENTS

Academics

Students enroll in a series of core courses designed to promote leadership and diversity, and choose a variety of elective courses. They have the opportunity to earn a certificate in Diversity and Inclusion through the College of Education and Human Development.

Career

Students participate in a variety of employment experiences based on their preferences, and develop skills necessary for employment in their preferred field. Enrichment workshops cover topics like self-determination, career development, and computer skills.

Supports

Coaches provide support as students engage in campus academics and extracurricular activities.

Advisors

Program advisors work with each student to set and work toward goals and access the supports they need to be successful with their academic, career, and personal development.

Objectives

- Assess personal strengths and opportunities for growth related to career exploration and development.
- Access career resources to develop employment goals and objectives.
- Improve communication and leadership abilities.
- Develop skills to facilitate independence.

INFORMATION

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