

InclusiveU Transition Program

About:

InclusiveU, part of the Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University, provides a specialized transition program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. InclusiveU takes place on the Syracuse University campus and provides:

- Transition-specific planning focused on self-determination
- Extended learning opportunities with an individualized curriculum
- Integrated employment preparation option (Project SEARCH year)
- Social, recreational, and personal skills support
- Self-determination and self-management skill development
- Transition support for individuals and their families

Program Details:

Transition-Specific Planning Process

- Every student receives direct instruction and support in the Students Transitioning to Adult Roles (STAR) Person-Centered Planning Process.
- Students receive advising that mirrors typical college advising.

Extended Learning Opportunities

- Students receive instruction in an individualized curriculum according to their Person-Centered Planning Process based on interests, needs, and goals. Instruction is on topics such as: daily living and employability skills, team building, safety, technology, communication skills, health and wellness, or community navigation, as some examples. The program provides all necessary books and materials.
- All InclusiveU students have access to campus technology and receive integrated instruction on its use. Most InclusiveU students are issued an iPad to use for technology integration and access if deemed an appropriate support.

Integrated Employment Preparation

- InclusiveU provides integrated employment preparation through a one-year option to participate in Syracuse University's Project SEARCH. Students prepare for future internships in supported volunteer opportunities in departments around SU.
- Students learn pre-employment skills such as writing a resumé, job-hunting, cooperating with colleagues, and performing well in job interviews. A weekly employment seminar is open to all students.
- All InclusiveU students who complete the Transition Program receive a certificate attesting to campus-based learning and career development experience, making the certificate meaningful to potential employers. Upon program completion, InclusiveU students

participate in graduation ceremonies in the same cap and gown all undergraduates wear.

Social Support

- To foster academic, social, and personal growth for students with Intellectual and developmental disabilities, InclusiveU provides peer support through Peer-to-Peer, a program that brings together traditionally enrolled students and students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Students are included in on-campus events and activities according to their interests and goals. InclusiveU students have access to all parts of campus, including fitness and recreation centers. Program costs include a prorated “student activities fee” at Syracuse University in order to access campus clubs, organizations, activities, and special events. InclusiveU students also have access to free or discounted special events much like any other college student, such as basketball games, festivals, and recreational activities.
- InclusiveU students receive direct instruction through integrated sessions on social skills and responsibilities of a college student.

Self-Determination Skill Development

- InclusiveU students participate in instruction in a variety of self-management and adaptive skills, such as locating information, listening, teamwork, and applied technology.
- Students receive instruction in self-advocacy skills and opportunities to work with other students and community members on self-advocacy efforts.
- Students receive instruction on self-determination skills that will help them transition to more independent lives in the community after graduation.

Transition Support for Individuals and Families

- InclusiveU offers integrated communication and trainings for parents and families throughout each student’s program at InclusiveU. InclusiveU Advisors work with an individual’s community support providers (MSC, Broker, FI, Community Habilitation, etc.) to maximize transition success.

Costs

The InclusiveU Transition Program is billed monthly at \$800 per month for the academic year. Most students who are eligible for a Medicaid Waiver are able to utilize self-direction funds to pay for this program.

Inclusive Coursework

Syracuse University and The Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education are committed to inclusion on the university campus. InclusiveU students can audit courses of their interest with the permission of the department and their InclusiveU advisor. Most students take 1-3 classes per semester, and courses typically vary from 1 audit credit to 3 audit credits. When students have completed at least five courses in a particular area of study, they will receive a Certificate in their respective program through University College upon graduation.

Tuition costs approximately \$1400 per 3-credit audited class. Most students who are eligible for the Medicaid Waiver will be able to utilize self-direction funds to pay for tuition. Most InclusiveU students typically budget around \$3000 per semester for tuition.

Peer Mentors

The Taishoff Center is able to coordinate mentoring and assistance during class and throughout campus provided by matriculated Syracuse University students. The Peer Mentor program is an optional service available through a collaboration with our community partner, The Kelberman Center. For more information, please contact InclusiveU.

InclusiveU Contact Information:

Bud Buckhout, Director, InclusiveU
Beth Myers, Director, Taishoff Center
University College Building
700 University Avenue
Syracuse NY 13244
Phone: 315-443-4058
Email: sebuckho@syr.edu