

Finding the right supports in post-secondary education: How do you choose?

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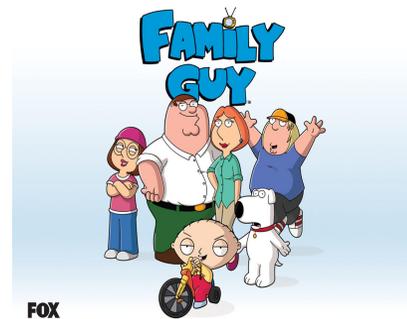
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What Constituents a Good Adult Life?



Meaningful Work?



Family?



Health?



Exercise?



Belonging to a
Community?



Hobbies?



Friends?



Religious Affiliation?

Overview

- Importance of post-secondary education
- The role of a good evaluation
- Types of post-secondary education
- Efficacy of post-secondary transition programs
- How to find post-secondary educational placements and supports

Outcomes

- Describe the relationship between post-secondary education, employment, and income
- State the usefulness of a good evaluation
- Tell me the three types of post-secondary support programs
- Walk away with at least 3 resources to help you find post secondary support programs

Where do I start?

- **Start with a good comprehensive evaluation:**
 - **WAIS**
 - **Academic achievement**
 - **Adaptive functioning**
 - **Vocational interests, aptitudes, and values**
- **To earn a 4 year college degree a student must be “otherwise qualified”**
- **There is no special education in college degree programs**
- **ADA takes precedence – only reasonable accommodations**

Where Do I Start?

- Summer camp attendance – How did that go?
- College summer programs
- Not the ability to, but in the **habit** of:
 - Self-advocating
 - Problem solving
 - Getting self up in the morning
 - Taking own medication regularly & refilling prescriptions
 - Doing own laundry

Education Matters



Post-secondary education is more than simply getting a degree.

Getting a degree should NOT be the end goal!

- Participation in any type of post secondary education (vocational education, college certificate program or even one college course) significantly enhances the ability of individuals with disabilities to secure meaningful employment (Getzel & Wehman, 2005)
- Students with disabilities who earn a B.A. degree obtain subsequent employment at almost the same rate as their neurotypical peers (HEATH Resource Center, 1998; OSER, 2000).

Education and Life Time Earnings



These data do not reflect the move toward stackable industry recognized certificates

Educational attainment

- None to 8th grade.
- 9th to 12th grade.
- High school graduate.
- Some college.
- Associate's degree .
- Bachelor's degree.
- Master's degree.
- Professional degree.
- Doctorate degree.

Synthetic work-life earnings

936,000
1,099,000
1,371,000
1,632,000
1,813,000
2,422,000
2,834,000
4,159,000
3,525,000

Source: Work-Life Earnings by Field of Degree and Occupation for People With a Bachelor's Degree: 2011
By Tiffany Julian. Issued October 2012. *American Community Survey Briefs*

Do Post-Secondary Programs Work?

Wehman et al. (2013)

- Randomly assigned students with ASD to a vocational training vs. business as usual
- Results: 87.5% of the vocational group were employed 6 months after the training vs. 6.25% of the control group

Moore & Schelling (2015)

- 9 out of 10 students with ID who graduated from a post-secondary program were employed within 2 years of the study
- Only 1/2 high school grads with ID employed

Importance of ADLs

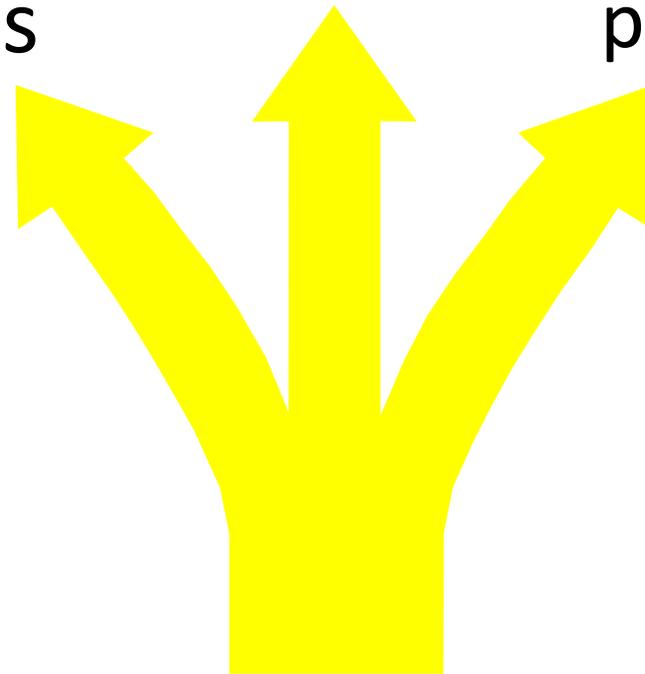
- Diament (2015)
 - Neither I.Q. or academic ability were better predictors of employment and independent living than
 - The ability to successfully and consistently complete activities of daily living

3 Types of Post Secondary Programs

Vocational Programs

Supported Academic Programs

Transition programs



Two Main Types of Transition Programs

- **College Based**
 - These programs are a part of the university.
 - They draw upon the infrastructure of the university.
 - Answer to the hierarchy of the university
- **Community Based**
 - For profit and not for profit social service agencies that typically operate out of apartment complexes
 - Often teach ADLs in students' apartments
 - Ideal for students who have difficulty generalizing skills across environments
 - Have MOUs with community colleges or 4 year institutions
 - Not eligible for Federal Student Aid

Where Do I Find a One Stop Service Center for Employment Training or Pre –ETS?

- **Contact your State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services** (e.g. MA = MRC; NY = ACCES-VR; NJ = DVRS; CT = BRS; CA = DOR)
- Ask if they have done a RPF for WIOA & which entities were granted contracts
- This is the best way to determine which social service agencies have been subcontracted by the state

Where Do I Find a
College Based &
Community Based Post-
secondary Programs for
Students with
Disabilities?

- **Think College!**
<https://thinkcollege.net/>
- Heath Center National Youth Transition Center <https://www.heath.gwu.edu/>
- Comprehensive Transition & Post-secondary (CTP) programs:
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/in-tellectual-disabilities>
- Lesley University Threshold Program e-Book - Comprehensive Guide to Transition Programs
<https://www.lesley.edu/six-qualities>

Additional Resources

- VanBergeijk, E.O. (2018, Spring). ABLÉ Act Information. <https://lesley.edu/threshold-program/information-on-the-able-act>
- VanBergeijk, E.O. (2018, Spring). 6 Tips for Applying to a College Based Transition Program. <https://lesley.edu/article/6-tips-for-applying-to-college-based-transition-programs>
- VanBergeijk, E.O. (2018, Spring). 6 Ways to Foster Independence in Young Adults with Special Needs. <https://lesley.edu/article/6-ways-to-foster-independence-in-young-adults-with-special-needs>
- VanBergeijk, E.O. (2018, Spring). Paying for a College Transition Program. <https://lesley.edu/article/paying-for-a-transition-program>

Threshold Program Open House



**Monday, November 4, 2019 3-5
PM Alumni Hall**

Thank
You!

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