

DREAMING OF CONTINUING ON TO HIGHER EDUCATION?



VIRGINIA 4-YEAR COLLEGE PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY (GMU)
FAIRFAX, VA



MASON AUTISM SUPPORT INITIATIVE (MASI)

MASI is a comprehensive, fee-based program that provides additional intensive support services to students on the Autism Spectrum beyond typical higher education accommodations. MASI uses a team-based approach to assist students in achieving their individual goals in college.

<https://ds.gmu.edu/masi/>

Phone: (703)993-3905

Email: masi@gmu.edu

MASON LEARNING INTO FUTURE ENVIRONMENTS (LIFE) PROGRAM

The Mason LIFE Program is a supportive academic university experience that offers a four-year post-secondary curriculum of study to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who begin the program between 18-23 years of age.

<https://masonlife.gmu.edu>

Phone: (703) 993-1000

Email: ods@gmu.edu



www.arcofncv.org / info@arcofncv.org

571-399-5390

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY (VCU)
RICHMOND, VA



ACE-IT IN COLLEGE

ACE-IT in College is a unique college experience for students with cognitive disabilities for individuals age 18 and over. Throughout the program, students take VCU classes, work part-time, and participate in an internship.

<https://aceitincollege.org/>

Phone: (804) 828-2253

Email: aceit@vcu.edu

LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY
FARMVILLE, VA



LONGWOOD LIFE

Longwood LIFE is a two-year non-degree post-secondary college experience day program for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Students within the age range of 18-25 will gain the skills for independent living in a college community setting with age-appropriate peers throughout this day program.

<https://lancerlearning.com/longwood-life/>

Phone: (434) 395-2837

Email: LancerLife@longwood.edu

Community College Programs

Program for Adults in Vocational Education (PAVE)

http://www.reynolds.edu/student_services/pave/

Phone: 804-523-5572

at Reynolds Community College in Richmond

PAVE is a 2-year vocational training program for students with a HS diploma or who pass the ATB test. It provides students with tools to become independent support professionals in their field.

College Steps

<https://www.collegesteps.org>

Email: contactus@collegesteps.org

at NVCC Annandale, Alexandria, and Loudoun campuses

College Steps is a non-profit that aims to empower students living with learning and social challenges through structured post-secondary support.

Want to Save Money for College?



Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014 allowed states to create tax-advantaged savings programs for eligible people with disabilities (designated beneficiaries). Funds from ABLE accounts can help designated beneficiaries pay for qualified disability expenses including education and training, basic living expenses, and housing. ABLE accounts help individuals with disabilities save money without being taxed on the earnings, and without losing eligibility for most benefit programs. They are not limited to your state of residence, though some programs like *ABLEnow* allow for tax advantages for state residents. *ABLEnow* is administered by the Virginia College Savings Plan.

Phone Number: 1-844-669-2253

[Website: https://www.able-now.com/](https://www.able-now.com/)

Resources

Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)

<http://www.peatc.org>

Phone: (703) 923-0010

Email: partners@peatc.org



PEATC works with Virginia's teens, young adults, and their parents to empower them with knowledge to prepare for life after high school. We provide 1;1 assistance, workshops, online courses, and trainings at no cost to families. PEATC also has youth and parent factsheets available to give families information on specific transition and IEP related topics.

Think College

<https://thinkcollege.net>

Phone: (617) 287-4300

Email: thinkcollege@umb.edu



Search this college database for information on 265 college programs for students with intellectual disabilities. Online Resource Library includes wide range of topics.

State Council on Higher Education in VA (SCHEV)

<https://schev.edu/>

Phone: 804-225-2600



The Commonwealth's coordinating body for higher education. Information on applying and paying for college, as well as resources for students with disabilities.

Center on Transition Innovations (CTI)

<https://centerontransition.org>

Email: transition@vcu.edu



CTI mission is to provide information, resources, demonstration and research on pathways to employment that support youth with disabilities to gain access to integrated competitive employment to the fullest extent possible. Free online training and resources.

Center for Family Involvement (CFI)

<https://centerforfamilyinvolvement.vcu.edu>

Phone: 877 567 1122

Email: cfihelpline@vcu.edu



CFI works with families to increase their skills as advocates, mentors and leaders so that families, children and young adults with disabilities can lead the lives they want. Website offers links to many online resources and connections.