



## Think Higher. Think College.

# Exploring College for Students with Intellectual Disability: Families Make it Happen!

**College is possible  
for students with  
intellectual disability!**



As students transition out of high school, they have many decisions to make about their future. Students with intellectual disability who go to college get a chance to make friends, try new things, take classes, and get jobs. Most importantly, they get the chance to broaden their independence and figure out what they want their lives to look like. If you or your child with an intellectual disability have ever thought about college, here are some steps you can take to learn more about college options.



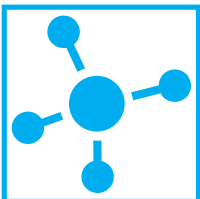
### EXPLORE

- Browse the College Search Tool at [www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net) to find details on hundreds of college programs across the country
- Attend a program's open house or virtual tour
- Schedule a campus tour and visit a program



### DISCUSS

- Talk with your child about their college dreams and questions
- Ask your child's teacher which college preparation and exploration activities can be included in the transition planning process or IEP
- Share the importance of college exploration for students with intellectual disability with your high school's principal and other administrators



### CONNECT

- Meet other families who have supported their college student with an intellectual disability on the Families Think College Facebook group
- Share [www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net) with teachers, transition coordinators, guidance counselors and administrators at your school

## QUESTIONS TO GET STARTED

### Ask Teachers:

- How can we work together to prepare my student for college?
- How can I help my student decide if they would like to go to college?
- How do we decide which program may be the right "fit" for my student?
- How can we support my student in identifying career interests to consider when deciding where to go to college?

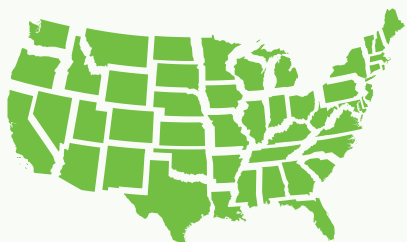
### Ask Students:

- When you think of going to college, what is important for you?
- What college experiences would you like to have?
- Do you want to visit a college?



# DID YOU KNOW?

College programs for students with [intellectual disability](#) (ID) are often called **inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) programs**. In these programs, students take college courses related to their personal and career goals, pursue a course of study, and achieve one or more credentials. College students with ID are an active part of the campus community — learning, working, and often living with their college peers.



**315**  
programs across  
**49**  
states



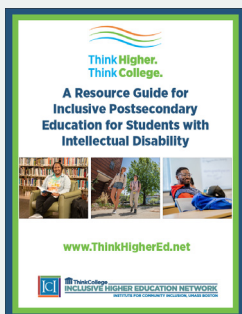
Approximately  
**8000**  
students attend  
college each year



**59%**  
of graduates  
find competitive  
integrated  
employment within  
one year after  
leaving college



[www.ThinkHigherEd.net](http://www.ThinkHigherEd.net)



## **A Resource Guide for Inclusive Postsecondary Education for Students with Intellectual Disability**

This simple and easy-to-use guide offers an overview of IPSE programs and resources, links, tips, and tools for college planning.



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This resource is a product of the Think College Inclusive Higher Education Network at the Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston, and funded by a grant from the Office of Postsecondary Education (Grant No. P407C210001). It was developed as a part of the "Think College. Think Higher." public awareness campaign. The opinions contained in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the funder.

RECOMMENDED CITATION: Pound, S., Grigal, M., Weir, C., & Roberts-Dahm, L.D. (2023). Exploring college for students with intellectual disability: Families make it happen! Think College Resource. Boston, MA: University of Massachusetts Boston, Institute for Community Inclusion.



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