

Campus Transition Project

Kent State University
The Center for Innovation in Transition and Employment

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Funding Agency & Purpose

- 3 year grant project funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).
- There is a current and critical need for the development of sustainable community-based programs for students with severe disabilities.
- For students aged 18-21, community-based instruction and experiences are very often more appropriate and motivating than the traditional public high school setting.
- Providing transition services in settings other than the high school supports age-appropriate and inclusive experiences as well as collaboration and planning among diverse partners.

Goals of 3 year NIDRR Project

Developing College Campuses as Transition Settings for Students with Severe and Multiple Disabilities Aged 18-21

- To develop college classes for 30 students with severe disabilities that engage practicing and prospective transition professionals in their life and career planning.
- To develop and implement daily campus activities for 30 students with severe disabilities based on their life/person centered plans.
- To engage students with severe disabilities, their teachers, university faculty, and other transition stakeholders in evaluating, refining, and supporting this model.
- To develop materials for replication of this model
- To disseminate and replicate this project at other universities.

3 year Overview of Project

- Year 1 – October 2008- August 2009
 - Planning
 - Recruitment of students
- Year 2 – September 2009 – August 2010
 - Fall – 15 students with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) explore/assess on-campus activities
 - Spring – Students begin individualized campus schedules
 - Summer - Students continue individualized campus schedules/5 week Campus Club
- Year 3 – September 2010-August 2011
 - Repeat year 2 format with 15 new students

What is the Campus Transition Project?

- **An opportunity for students with Intellectual Disabilities (ID), aged 18-21, to make use of the Kent State University campus as a means to:**
 - Increase their level of independence
 - Improve social and communication skills in authentic environments
 - Develop friendships with people of similar ages
 - Improve self-determination skills
 - Obtain career exploration and employment on a part or full time basis
 - Participate in college classes
 - Increase mobility in the community
 - Develop age-appropriate leisure and recreation interests
 - Connect with adult services agencies

Planning-Meet with Special Education Directors and Other Special Education Professionals in Local Education Agencies.

- Cuyahoga Falls
- Hudson
- Kent
- Stow-Monroe Falls
- Tallmadge
- Woodridge
- *Crestwood*
- *Streetsboro*
- *Southeast*
- *Ravenna*
- *Field*

Planning-School District Issues to be addressed

- Eligibility/selection of students
- Planning process
- Program day
- Class/curriculum
- Transportation

Planning-Meet with university officials

- Associate VP of Student Affairs & Dean of Students
- Director of Career Services Center
- Director of Center for Student Involvement
- Director of Recreational Services
- Director of Residence Services
- Executive Director of Student Center and Dining Services
- Executive Director of Administration

Planning-University Issues to be Addressed

- KSU identification cards
- Space/room
- Course selection/attendance
- Enrollment status
- Field experience/service learning credit
- Residence Hall/Independent living experience

Planning Partnerships

University Planning Partnership

- 5-7 members
- Address CTP issues concerning KSU campus
- Meet once a month/every other month

School District Planning Partnership

- 5-7 members
- Address CTP issues concerning participating high schools
- Meet once a month/every other month

Campus Transition Project Year

Fall Semester:

*15 students begin on-campus experience

*9-12 noon.

*Career & Life Skills Class

*Person Centered Planning

Spring Semester:

*Individualized on-campus schedules.

*Transportation based on students schedule

Summer:

* Continue individualized schedules.

*Summer Campus Club

5 week experience

May include residential/

Independent living experience