



Utah Parent Center
Special needs, extraordinary potential

College Programs for Students with Disabilities

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Aggies Elevated at Utah State University

Aggies Elevated is a two-year certificate program at Utah State University designed to make the college experience accessible for students with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. One of more than 200 transition postsecondary programs in the U.S. for students with intellectual disabilities, Aggies Elevated seeks to provide college students with learning opportunities leading to independence, employment, and career development. The program provides the opportunity for the student to learn and live independently while acquiring skills suited to his or her chosen career pathway. The program is based on the principles of maximizing opportunities, inclusive experiences, and life-long learning. The focus is on students who have intellectual and developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome and Autism. Documentation of disability, i.e., a Psychological Evaluation and Summary of Performance upon exit from high school, is required.

For more information, please visit: <http://aggieselevated.com/>

Catapult at Dixie Applied Technology Center

Catapult - College of Applied Technology Adult Population Urgent Lifeskills Training— helps students brush up on basic skills, qualify for a better job, or prepare for success in one of DXATC's certificate programs. These classes boost you over the walls that have been holding you back from where you want to be.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.dxatc.edu/other-areas-of-study/catapult/>

CATT at Weber State University

The purpose of CATT (Creating Achievement through Transition) is to identify motivated college-bound students and pair them with a peer guide to increase their success throughout the transition process. Students with disabilities can struggle accessing the necessary accommodations to ensure success throughout their college experience. Peer guides positively influence the success of students with disabilities in college. As a volunteer organization facilitated by students with disabilities, transitioning students will become peer guides for future participants.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.weber.edu/ssd/CATT.html>

Passages at Utah Valley University

The Passages program is a series of classes and activities that occur every semester on campus at UVU. The mission of Passages is to encourage and support those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) between the ages of 18 to 40 to more fully realize their potential and utilize their strengths through higher education, social experiences, independent living, and career guidance.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.uvu.edu/autism/resources/asd.html>

Tanner Dance at the University of Utah

The University of Utah Tanner Dance Program has three programs for children and adults with disabilities, allowing them to participate in dance and theater in a supportive environment.

- The Elevate Theater Company is a new musical theater company for performers with disabilities. Students will explore the sights and sounds of Broadway as they participate in a study of musical theater repertoire both past and present. Students will explore a variety of different emotions framed in various scenarios. As students engage in classes full of singing, dancing, and acting, there will be opportunities to expand on memorization and mobility skill.
- The LEADD Program (Learning and Engaging through Arts Discipline and Development) is a new arts and education program for adults with disabilities. This program will challenge students to learn valuable life skills through the artistic genres of dance, music, theater, visual art and creative writing.
- Dancers with Disabilities class. These are for children and young adults who wish to experience the joy of moving and self-expression. The class includes appropriate technique exercises for the whole body, and dancers explore shape, space, rhythm, and movement quality. Teachers use literature and other springboards that they creatively weave into the class. All classes have live accompaniment by experienced and engaging musicians. The DwD classes have the opportunity to perform at Kingsbury Hall in a year-end performance.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.tannerdance.utah.edu/programs/dancers-with-disabilities-for-children-and-adults/>

Workplace Foundations at Southwest Applied Technology College

The Workplace Foundations program is designed to provide basic vocational training opportunities to adults with developmental disabilities. It includes basic, common workplace tasks, situations, and curriculum necessary for students to obtain and keep gainful employment, and to become more independent. The Program is designed to take approximately six months to complete, and includes lab-setting and instructor-led courses. It is intended for individuals who can benefit from the training to bridge the gap between current capability and employment.

For more information, please visit: <http://swatc.edu/our-programs/workplace-foundations/>

Disability Service Offices

Every public university and college is required to have a disability service office for students with disabilities, to help coordinate the accommodations that are necessary for students to access information in college. Many private universities and colleges offer a disability service office center as well, and are required to do so if they accept any federal money for any of their programs. Accommodations are required to be provided to qualifying individuals under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

It's important to note that accommodations will not be given automatically. The student must request them and work with the office to provide necessary documentation of disability, as well as information about what accommodations have worked well in the past. As soon as a student plans to attend the school, it is a good idea to contact the school's disability service office to ask what documentation will be required, so accommodations can be put in place as soon as possible. When visiting the college campus, be sure to stop in at their disability resource center as well.

Many other colleges and universities are considering developing programs for individuals with intellectual and other disabilities. Please contact the Utah Parent Center at 801-272-1051 or 800-468-1160 for current information on these programs.