

IN! 101:

**Overview of Pathways to Inclusive Higher
Education in Colorado**



**PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE
HIGHER EDUCATION**

Meet Our Staff

Executive Director:

Tracy Murphy
tracy@inclusivehighered.org
720-629-0196



Community Engagement Coordinator:

Shayna Laing
shayna@inclusivehighered.org
720-485-9922



Who We Are:



Founded in 2014

IN! exists to create **inclusive** college opportunities in Colorado for students with intellectual disabilities to foster **academic growth**, **social development**, and **career advancement**.

Note: IN! encourages colleges to open their doors to students with intellectual disabilities. The colleges then provide all of the on-campus supports.

EDUCATION

OUTREACH

EXPANSION

STUDENT SUCCESS

Landscape of College Options

History of College Pathways in CO

1880's



Degrees from specialty universities across the US

1973



Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act required for all institutions of higher ed

2022



1990



Section II Americans with Disabilities Act

2008



Federal Reauthorization of Higher Education Opportunity Act & Think College established

2023-2024



2016



Colorado Senate Bill 196: Inclusive Higher Education Act allowed CO to join the movement

2020



First students with ID graduate from college in Colorado; currently 70 students in 3 schools

House Bill 22 -1107: Inclusive Higher Education Opportunities Passed to expand pathways to higher education for students with ID in CO

2-4 more colleges/universities across the state will develop inclusive higher education programs and welcome students with ID on their campuses



Disability Services



- I meet traditional college entry criteria (diploma, ACT/SAT)
- I want an Associate's degree or higher
- I can meet all class outcomes
- I only need accommodations to be successful

Examples:

- Extra time on exams
- Quiet location
- Preferential seating
- Sign language interpreter
- Scribe
- Assistive tech.
- etc.

*Available at all colleges

Comprehensive Services



- I meet traditional college entry criteria
- I want an Associate's degree or higher
- I only need accommodations to be successful academically
- I am primarily independent academically but need some support with social, vocational, or organizational skills

*Available at select colleges

*Must apply to college & apply to participate in program

Inclusive Services



- I have an intellectual or developmental disability
- I don't meet traditional college entry criteria
- I want to receive a certificate credential
- I need both accommodations & modifications to be successful academically
- I need more intensive staff and peer mentor support in
 - academics
 - social
 - vocational
 - independence
- I want to take classes that align with my job goal

*Available at select colleges

*Must apply to program

Inclusive Programs

- Only offered at select institutions
- Alternative acceptance criteria
- Certificate credential
- Primarily serving students with ID or those proving need of additional supports
- Receive accommodations & modifications
- More intensive staff and peer mentor support
- Fully included in courses that align with career goal
- Support in four domains:

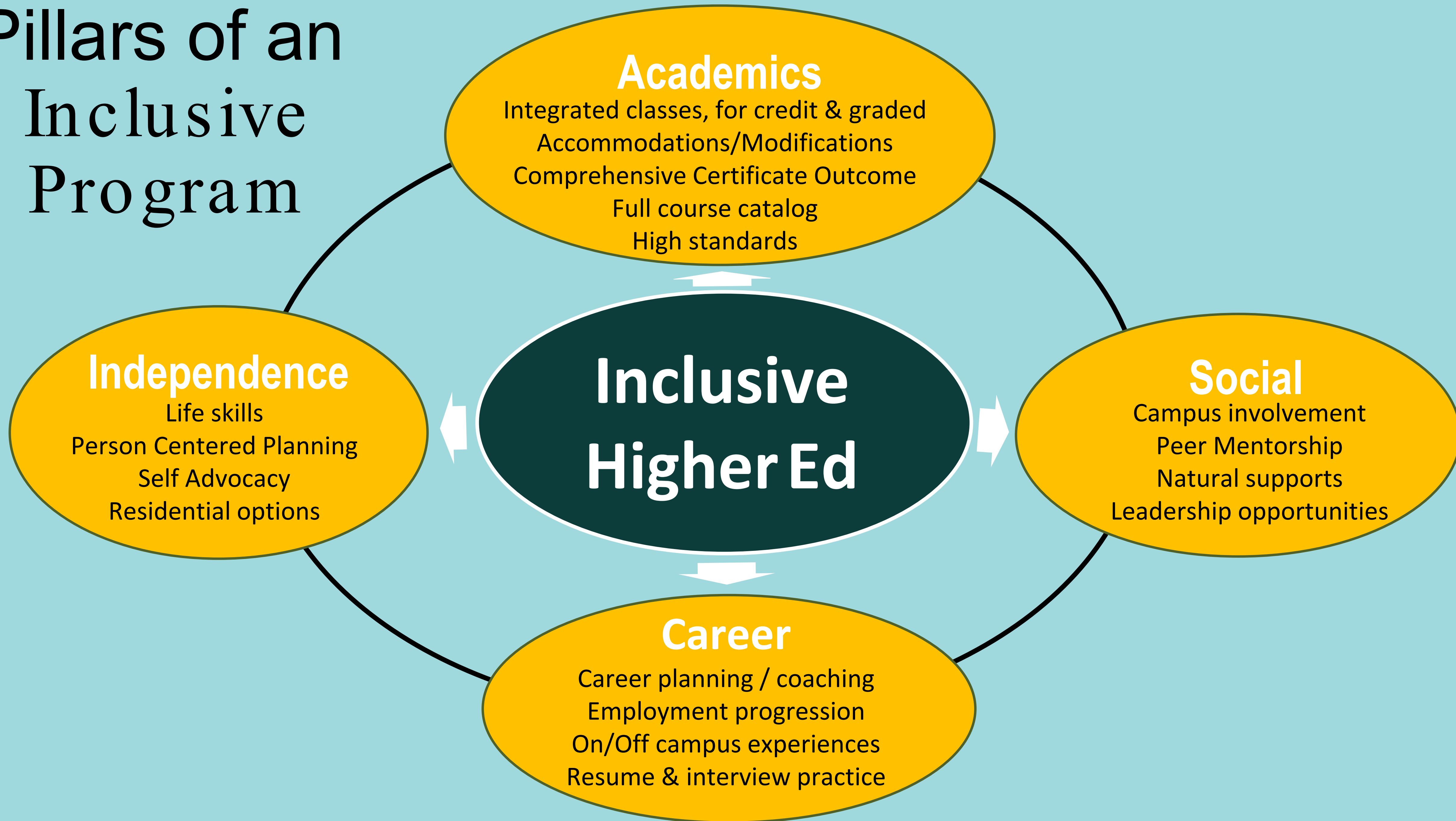


Vince, ACC

Theatre Arts and
Music

“Going to college is actually a really fun thing. It’s like freedom. I’ve learned how to be independent.”

Pillars of an Inclusive Program





- Elevate at Arapahoe Community College
- Littleton, Colorado
- Commuter Campus
- <https://www.arapahoe.edu/elevate-acc>



- Office of Inclusive Services at
- University of Colorado
- Colorado Springs, Colorado
- On Campus Apartments
- <https://inclusiveservices.uccs.edu/>



- GOAL – Go On And Learn
- University of Northern Colorado
- Greeley, Colorado
- On Campus Dorms
- www.unco.edu/unc-goal



- GLOBAL Inclusive Program
- Regis University
- Denver, Colorado
- On Campus Dorms
- <https://www.regis.edu/global>

→ Comprehensive Transition & Postsecondary Program (CTP)
→ Statewide Comprehensive Higher Education Certificate

In Progress

Inclusive Higher Ed Programming

ACADEMICS



Academics

- Full course catalog
- Courses taken for credit & graded
 - modified courses only transferable to other IHE programs
- Comprehensive higher education certificate w/ concentration in selected area of study
 - 3 courses/semester
 - 2 traditional, 1 specialized class
 - job preparation focus

Example of Certificate



Academic Plan
 Certificate
 Comprehensive Higher Education
 Catalog Year: 2021/2022

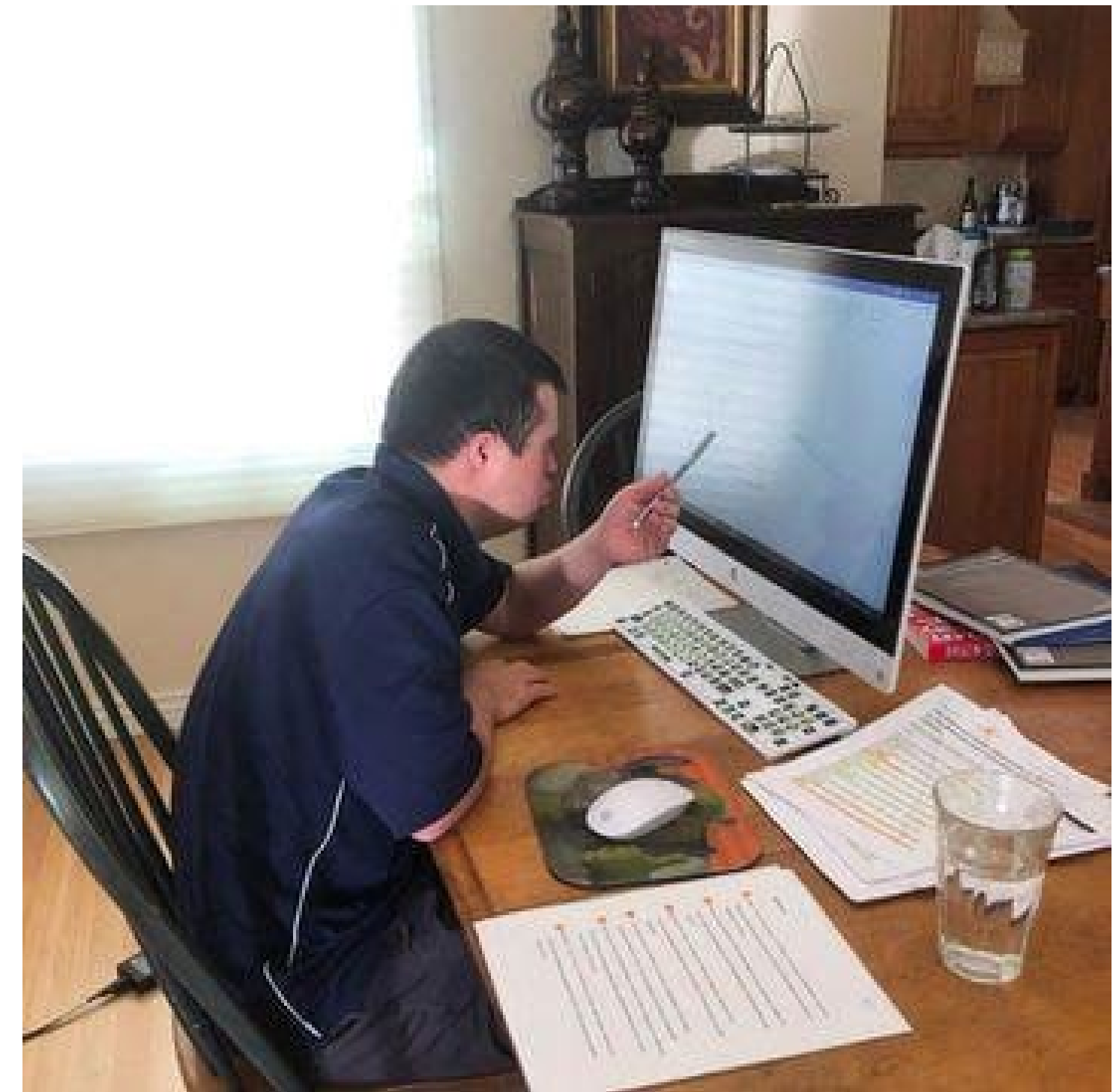
36 Credits

RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCE PART-TIME TRACK

Year 1: Summer	Credits	Course
	1	AAA 101 - College 101: The Student Experience (1 Cr.)
Year 1: Fall	Credits	Course
	3	AAA 109 - Advanced Academic Achievement (3 Cr.)
	3	Area of Study Course
Year 1: Spring	Credits	Course
	3	Area of Study Course
	5	CCR 092 - College Composition and Reading (5 Cr.)
Year 2: Fall	Credits	Course
	3	Area of Study Course
	3	CIS 118 - Intro to PC Applications (3 Cr.)
Year 2: Spring	Credits	Course
	3	Area of Study Course
	3	COM 125 - Interpersonal Communication (3 Cr.)
Year 3: Fall	Credits	Course
	3	Area of Study Course
	3	MAR 106 - Marketing Your Image (3 Cr.)
Year 3: Spring	Credits	Course
	3	Area of Study Course

Academic Support

- Academic coordinator in each inclusive office
- Tracking assignments
- Accommodations and modifications
- Course advising
- Peer mentors
- Study halls
- Other campus supports: tutoring center, writing center, etc.



What are students studying?

- Graphic design
- Communications
- Criminal justice
- Early Childhood Education
- Dance, Performing Arts
- Government
- Healthcare
- Human Services
- Photojournalism
- Sports Management
- Exercise Science
- And more!



SOCIAL



Social Life

- Attending events
 - Joining clubs
 - Volunteering
 - Taking on leadership roles
-
- Campus engagement staff in each inclusive office
 - Peer mentors
 - Natural supports through clubs/groups

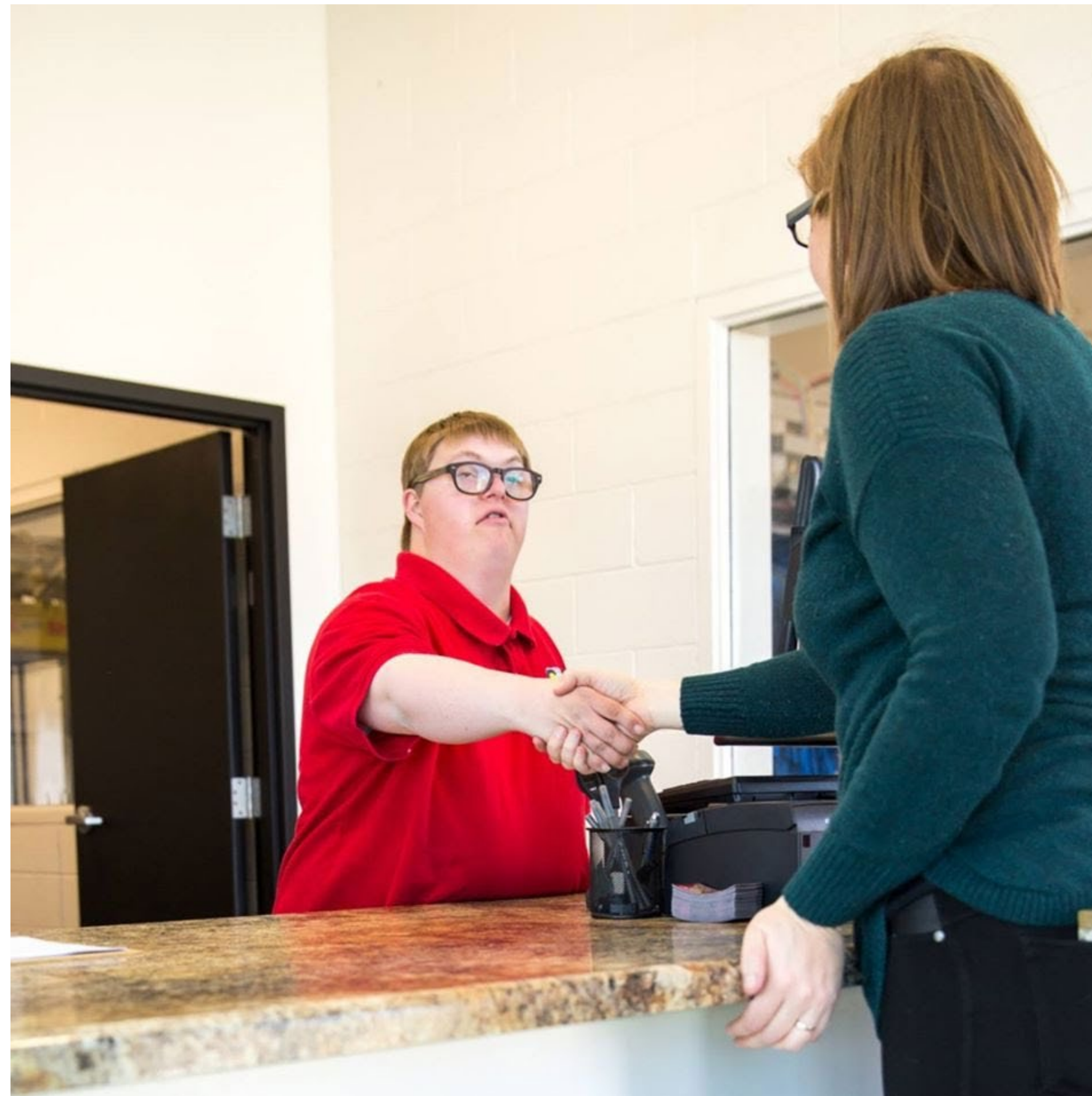


CAREER



Career Preparation

- Year 1:
 - Career exploration
 - readiness skill development
- Year 2:
 - Job shadows
 - On campus job experiences
 - Practicums
- Years 3&4:
 - Internship in area of interest
 - Paid employment on campus
 - Paid employment off campus
 - DVR connection



Post-Grad:
competitive
integrated
employment
&
connection
with DVR
supports

INDEPENDENCE



Independence

- Person centered planning & self -advocacy support
- Life Skills
 - public transit
 - planning outings
 - relationship management
 - etc.
- Residential Living:
 - UNC: dorms
 - UCCS: on campus apartments
 - Regis: dorms
- Supports: Peer Mentors & Medicaid/SLS Waiver



What are the outcomes?


- Shannon - Paraeducator
- Elnaz - Administrative Assistant
- Darius - Graphic Designer
- Caitlin & Paige - Teacher Assistant
- Jazmine - CNA, Nutrition Department
- Ashley - Self Advocate, Arc of Pikes Peak
- Mia - Teaching ASL lessons, Interpreter
- Mark - Metro Athletic Department
- Vince, Noah, Nick - IHE ambassadors
- Brianna (& many others) - Living independently




With college, people with IDD are
3x more likely to be employed



AND COLLEGE OFFERS...

 lifelong learning

 community engagement

 a fulfilling future

How to Enroll

Admission Criteria



- Have a documented intellectual disability
 - Each school has slightly different criteria for documentation
- Desire to go to college & live and work as independently as possible
- Utilize modifications and accommodations
- Have completed high school/transition program first
- Able to participate in class and campus activities with support
 - Students held to college Code of Conduct
- Wish to pursue a certificate credential

Application Process



Apply to inclusive office on campus (IN! does not facilitate)

- Winter: Applications typically open for following fall
- Application packet often includes:
 - student application
 - parent input
 - teacher recommendation letters
 - disability documentation
 - interview/on campus experience
- Spring: Applications typically due and interviews begin

→ [Application Links/Details for 23 -24 School Year](#)

Financial Information - Costs

- Tuition and fees (same cost, fewer credits)
- Program fee for inclusive services
- Room and board, if applicable

NOTE:

- Costs vary by school
- Be sure to reach out to each institution for details

Financial Information - Resources

- Financial Aid (grants, work study)
- Scholarships (local, college, national, disability specific, etc.)
- College funds/ABLE accounts (www.coloradoable.org)
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (www.Colorado.gov/dvr)
- Community Centered Boards
- Student contribution (work, SSI, etc.)

NOTE: Families are encouraged to research each option as the supports are individualized to each circumstance

Learn More & Get Involved



- IN! website: <https://inclusivehighered.org>
- Inspiring Futures College Mentorship Program:
https://inclusivehighered.org/news_events/mentorship_program.html
- Self-Paced Modules: A deep dive into inclusive higher ed
https://inclusivehighered.org/college_options/self_paced-modules.html
- Resource Webinars: inclusivehighered.org/news_events/
- Monthly newsletter: https://inclusivehighered.org/contact_us/join_us.html
- Ways to Give: <https://inclusivehighered.org/about/donate.html>

Additional Resources



- Going to college high school checklist: <http://going-to-college.org/planning/list.html#get>
- UCCS' Getting Ready for College: Top 10 Actions to Take While in High School: https://inclusivehighered.org/file_download/0f8e4fba-6d07-45d0-8288-cab639d222cb
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: <https://dvr.colorado.gov/>
- ThinkCollege family resources: <https://thinkcollege.net/family-resources>
- Personal Competencies for College & Career Success: https://thinkcollege.net/sites/default/files/files/resources/Outcomes_Personal-Competencies-for-College-and-Career-Success_NCWD.pdf

inclusivehighered.org

shayna@inclusivehighered.org

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IN! Prospective Family Office Hours:

<https://calendly.com/shayna-inclusivehighered/in-office-hours-prospective-families?back=1>