

# 2025-2026

**Post-secondary Education** 



**COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE** 

# 2025-2026 Post-secondary Education Community Resource Guide

## What You'll Find Inside

The 2025–2026 Post-secondary Education Community Resource Guide connects families to programs and services that support individuals with disabilities in preparing for, finding, and maintaining meaningful employment.

## Career and Vocational Training Programs

 Institutions offering hands-on training, certifications, and diplomas in skilled trades and technical fields.

## College Programs with Disability Support

- Colleges and universities that provide accommodations and services for students with disabilities pursuing academic degrees.
- Information on Inclusive Post-secondary Education Programs that provide college experiences for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

#### Financial Aid and Transition Resources

Information on FAFSA and the Georgia Student Finance Commission

#### Assistive Technology and Diagnostic Services

 Resources like Tools for Life and Regents' Centers for Learning Disorders that help students access technology and accommodations.

#### Cobb County School District Transition Guides

- Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency
  - Includes information on the Bud McCall Grant
- Inclusive Post-secondary Education Programs
- Transitioning to College for Students with Disabilities

To use the active links in this guide, please access a digital copy of this Community Resource Guide on the Cobb County Transition Services webpage or through the QR code.



Resources found within the Cobb County School District Community Resource Guides are for informational purposes only. The resources contained here are not associated with, affiliated with or sponsored by the Cobb County School District. CCSD makes no recommendations about the validity or usefulness of any agencies listed herein. The resources contained in this guide may change after publication. Please contact the resources for the most up to date information on services provided.



<u>Cave Spring Center</u> is a residential vocational rehabilitation facility operated by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). It serves individuals with disabilities, ages 18 and older, who are referred by their VR counselors. CSC provides services such as vocational assessment, life skills instruction, employment readiness training, and personal and social adjustment. The center is equipped to support individuals with a wide range of disabilities, including those who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.

7 Padlock Mountain Road SW Cave Spring, GA 30124 Phone: 706-777-2341

www.gvs.georgia.gov/locations/cave-spring-center

<u>Chattahoochee Technical College</u> is part of the Technical College System of Georgia and offers associate degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates across a wide range of career fields. The college provides support services for students with disabilities to ensure equal access to educational programs. Services include academic accommodations, assistive technology, interpreter services, and referrals to campus and community resources. Students must self-identify and provide documentation to access these services.





980 South Cobb Drive
Marietta, GA 30060
Phone: 770-528-4545
www.chattahoocheetech.edu
Disability Services:



<u>www.chattahoocheetech.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2024-2025/general-catalog/student-affairs/office-of-student-resources/</u>

<u>Eaton Academy--LEAP (Learn, Experience, Achieve, Perform) Program</u> is a post-secondary transition program for young adults with learning differences. It focuses on developing life skills, job readiness, and academic support to help students achieve greater independence. LEAP includes classroom instruction, community-based work experiences, and individualized coaching. The program is ideal for students who have completed high school and are preparing for employment or further education.





1000 Old Roswell Lakes Parkway Roswell, GA 30076 Phone: 770-645-2673



www.eatonacademy.org/post-secondary/leap/



<u>FAFSA (The Free Application for Federal Student Aid)</u> is the official form used to apply for federal financial aid for college or career school. Students with disabilities are encouraged to complete the FAFSA to determine eligibility for grants, scholarships, work-study programs, and loans. Completing the FAFSA is also required to access Georgia's IPSE Grant and other state-based aid. The form must be submitted each academic year and is available online.





www.studentaid.gov





The Georgia Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium (GAIPSEC) is a statewide initiative housed at Georgia State University's Center for Leadership in Disability. The consortium works to expand access to inclusive post-secondary education (IPSE) for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. GAIPSEC provides resources for families, educators, and institutions, and supports the development of college programs that promote academic, social, and career success for students with disabilities.





75 Piedmont Ave NE, Suite 514 Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: 404-413-1013 www.gaipsec.org

<u>The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC)</u> administers state-funded scholarships, grants, and service-cancelable loan programs to help students and families pay for college. GSFC provides free financial aid consultation and outreach services to K–12 schools, post-secondary institutions, and community organizations. Students with disabilities can benefit from GSFC's support in accessing programs like the IPSE Grant, HOPE Scholarship, and other aid options.

2082 East Exchange Place Tucker, GA 30084 Phone: 800-505-4732 www.gsfc.georgia.gov

<u>Georgia Trade School</u> is a premier independent welding school offering certification programs in various welding disciplines. The school provides hands-on training using modern equipment and partners with employers in industries such as shipbuilding, manufacturing, and construction to support job placement. Georgia Trade School offers flexible scheduling and some scholarship opportunities, making it a strong option for students with disabilities seeking skilled trades training.





4231 Southside Drive Acworth, GA 30101 Phone: 770-590-9353 www.georgiatradeschool.com



<u>Mechanical Trades Institute</u> offers a tuition-free apprenticeship program for individuals pursuing careers as Pipefitters, Plumbers, and HVACR Service Technicians. Apprentices earn while they learn, completing over 10,000 hours of training—including 1,100+ classroom hours and 8,500+ hours of onthe-job experience. The program is sponsored by Local Union 72 and prepares students for long-term careers in the mechanical trades.



6120 Purdue Drive SW Atlanta, GA 30336 Phone: 404-696-7121 www.mti-jatt.org



<u>The MoSAIC Program (Model of Services and Inclusion for College)</u> at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga supports students with Autism Spectrum Disorders enrolled at UTC. It offers individualized academic coaching, peer mentoring, and social support to help students succeed in traditional degree programs. MoSAIC promotes independence, inclusion, and self-advocacy in a college setting.





615 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga, TN 37403 Phone: 423-425-4000





https://www.utc.edu/enrollment-management-and-student-affairs/mosaic

<u>Perkins School for the Blind</u> is a global leader in education services for children and young adults with multiple disabilities and visual impairments. The school offers a wide range of programs including academic instruction, assistive technology training, and transition services to support independence and lifelong learning.





175 North Beacon Street Watertown, MA 02472 Phone: 617-924-3434 www.perkins.org







The Regents' Centers for Learning Disorders are specialized centers established by the University System of Georgia to support students with learning disorders enrolled in Georgia's public colleges and universities. These centers provide affordable diagnostic evaluations, consultation services, and training for disability service providers. Their goal is to help students access accommodations and succeed in traditional degree programs.

There are three RCLD locations across Georgia:

University of Georgia – Athens

www.rcld.uga.edu

Georgia Southern University – Statesboro

www.georgiasouthern.edu/academics/student-success/regents-center-learning-disorders

Georgia State University – Atlanta

www.rcld.gsu.edu

<u>Roosevelt Warm Springs</u> is a residential training campus operated by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). It offers life skills development and vocational certification programs for individuals with disabilities. Students are referred through their Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselor and participate in hands-on training designed to promote independence and employment success.



6135 Roosevelt Highway Warm Springs, GA 31830 Phone: 706-655-5255

www.gvs.georgia.gov/roosevelt-warm-springs

<u>Shepherds College</u> is a fully accredited, three-year post-secondary school designed specifically for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The program focuses on building vocational, social, and life skills to support appropriate independence. Students can specialize in areas such as culinary arts, horticulture, and technology, while also participating in campus life and community engagement.



1805 15th Avenue Union Grove, WI 53182 Phone: 262-878-5620

www.shepherdscollege.edu







<u>Technical College System of Georgia</u> oversees 22 technical colleges across the state that provide affordable, hands-on education and workforce training in high-demand career fields. Students can earn associate degrees, diplomas, or technical certificates in areas such as healthcare, information technology, manufacturing, and public safety. Each college offers support services for students with disabilities to ensure equal access to programs and accommodations that promote success in post-secondary education and employment.





1800 Century Place NE, Suite 400 Atlanta, GA 30345 Phone: 404-679-1600 www.tcsg.edu





<u>Think College</u> is a national organization committed to expanding inclusive higher education opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities. It provides research, resources, and guidance to families, educators, and institutions. Think College supports evidence-based practices, policy development, and institutional change to promote access and success in post-secondary education.



Institute for Community Inclusion
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125
Phone: Voice: 617-287-4300





TTY: 617-287-4350 wwww.thinkcollege.net

<u>Tools for Life</u> is Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, housed at Georgia Tech. It helps individuals of all ages and abilities access and acquire assistive technology (AT) devices and services. TFL offers device demonstrations, lending libraries, evaluations, and training to support independence in education, employment, and daily living.





512 Means Street NW, Suite 250 Atlanta, GA 30318 Phone: 404-894-0541 www.gatfl.gatech.edu/index.php



<u>University System of Georgia</u> governs 26 public colleges and universities across the state, offering a range of academic programs from associate degrees to doctorates. USG institutions provide disability services and accommodations to ensure equal access to higher education for students with disabilities.



270 Washington Street SW Atlanta, GA 30334 Phone: 404-962-3050 www.usg.edu







# <u>Georgia Vocational</u> <u>Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)</u>

The purpose of the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) is to help individuals with disabilities get and maintain employment.

## Families and Students Need to Know...

GVRA services are free to eligible individuals and designed to support varying needs, from job placement to job readiness assistance or post-secondary training. They may even pay for post-secondary education or training!

Eligibility for services is based on factors such as the individual's disability and its impact on their potential for employment.

GVRA provides benefits counseling to help individuals understand how income may impact benefits like Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid

Application for GVRA services is completed online at: <a href="https://referral.gvs.ga.gov/">https://referral.gvs.ga.gov/</a>.

\*Check spam folders after applying online.

If you would like to connect with the Transition Resource Specialist that supports your school, please consult the Locations list on the Transition Services website:

<a href="https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/special-education-transition-services">https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/special-education-transition-services</a>



# Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

Pre-ETS are group services designed to equip students with disabilities with the skills and knowledge to transition to post-secondary life successfully. These may be provided in the school setting or during school breaks.



## The Bud McCall Grant

The Bud McCall Post-Secondary Vocational Rehabilitation Grant is a financial aid program specifically for GVRA clients seeking a college or university education to gain employment. The grant can cover expenses for up to five years and is paid after other financial aid sources like the Pell Grant or scholarships.



It can provide: Tuition: up to \$7,395 per year



Maintenance (room, board, and meals): up to \$9,430 per year



Books: up to \$900 per year

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# **Inclusive Post-secondary Education**

Inclusive post-secondary education (IPSE) is a college program that includes people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who might not otherwise get to have a college experience. Students in IPSE programs attend classes and may live in dorms with people who do not have intellectual disabilities. IPSE programs do not confer degrees, but some certifications are available. Check individual programs.

## Where are the IPSE Programs in Georgia?

## **Albany Technical College**



## **Berry College**



#### **Columbus State University**



## East Georgia State College



# Georgia College and State University



## **Georgia Southern University**



## **Georgia State University**



#### **Georgia Tech**



## **Kennesaw State University**







# **Paying for IPSE**

IPSE Grants are a five-year pilot that pays for "standard undergraduate tuition" at *public institutions only*. The grants may pay for program or student fees, depending on funds available.

## **Applying for an IPSE Grant**

Students can apply for IPSE Grants by one of two ways:

- 1. Complete the Free Application for <u>Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</u>. The FAFSA must be completed every year to be eligible for IPSE Grants or federal funds like the Pell Grant. Or
- 2. Complete the online <u>Georgia Student Finance Application (GSFAPP</u>). The GSFAPP only needs to be fill out once every ten years in the state of Georgia.

For more information about IPSE Programs in Georgia, check out the Georgia Inclusive Post-secondary Education Consortium (GAIPSEC).

For more information about IPSE Programs in all over the country, check out <u>Think College</u>.







To access a digital copy of this document

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# <u>Transition to College for</u> <u>Students with Disabilities</u>

The transition to college for students with disabilities requires that students and their families understand the shifts in responsibilities and the policies that support students with disabilities.

Did you know...Students with disabilities are half as likely to go to college and less likely to finish when they go? It is essential that students with disabilities prepare themselves for post-secondary education.















10. Learn to use technology that can accommodate academic and executive functioning needs.

- 9. Make sure sure to practice organizational and time management strategies in order to manage multiple classes and class schedules.
- 8. Find out how you learn and practice strategies to make the most of your learning style.
- 7. Use different study skills and find out what works best for you.
- 6. Learn about and practice using good test taking strategies.
- 5. Develop a support system.
- 4. Understand your rights and responsibilities.
- 3. Advocate for your needs.
- 2. Set goals and make a plan for achieving them.
- 1. Find the right college.





# <u>Accessing Accommodations in College</u>

In order to receive accommodations in college, a student must demonstrate that their disability impacts at least one major life activity. A major life activity may include learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, writing, etc.



## **Helpful Websites**

- High School vs. College
- Regents Center for Learning Disorders
   \*Each Regents Center covers multiple Universities
  - Georgia State University
  - o University of Georgia
  - o Georgia Southern University
- US Department of Education
- <u>University System of Georgia</u>
- <u>Parent to Parent of Georgia Post-secondary</u>
   Education



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