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## Planning for College with Achieva

Are you the parent of a child with an intellectual disability? Do you wonder what life will look like after high school? As you consider your child's options, we hope a college education will be among them.

Students with intellectual disabilities attending inclusive college programs are a growing population. Five of Pennsylvania's state universities now have programs for students with intellectual disabilities: Millersville, Slippery Rock, Lock Haven, West Chester, and East Stroudsburg.

Achieva is working collaboratively with the Pennsylvania Inclusive Higher Education Consortium (PIHEC) and its 32-member colleges and universities like Duquesne to increase opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities to attend college. Working together, Achieva and PIHEC will guide colleges and universities in the creation of inclusive and supportive environments where academics, social experiences, independent living, and integrated and competitive employment can be made available to the 14,000 young adults ages 18-26 with intellectual disabilities in Pennsylvania.

As one of Pennsylvania's largest providers of services for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, we created the Planning for College with Achieva Initiative so that the students and families we serve will be prepared to take advantage of these opportunities. Planning for College with Achieva provides information, resources, and technical assistance to college-bound students and families.

For students and families, Achieva offers information about:

- How to Pay for College
- Using an IEP to Pay for College
- Dual enrollment in high school and college
- Post-secondary (college) programs in Pennsylvania and other states

We also offer individual consultations with students and families that include:

- IEP review and collaboration with the IEP team
- College-focused transition goals
- Skill-building recommendations specific to the college experience
- Introductions to program directors and college admission teams
- Assistance with the application process
- Information about funding
- Connections to families and students with intellectual disabilities currently attending college

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