

# Planning for College

with **achieva** 

for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

[advocacyassistance@achieva.info](mailto:advocacyassistance@achieva.info)

1.888.272.7229 x486

## Achieva College Planning Services

Students with intellectual disabilities (ID) attending inclusive college programs are a growing population. 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 may be among them.

As one of Pennsylvania's largest providers of services for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, we created *Planning for College with Achieva* to provide information, resources and technical assistance to college-bound students with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Achieva is working collaboratively with the Pennsylvania Inclusive Higher Education Consortium (PIHEC) and its 32-member colleges and universities 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 programs 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.

Are you planning for college? Achieva can help your child lay the foundation for success in higher education. We are pleased to offer the following services for students with intellectual disabilities and their families, transition coordinators, other school district professionals, and support coordinators who are interested in inclusive post-secondary education programs.

For students and families, Achieva offers information about:

- How to Pay for College
- Using an Individualized Educational Plan (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

For school district professionals, Achieva offers:

- Information about transition planning and inclusive post-secondary education for students with intellectual disabilities
- Transition planning templates with sample goals and other suggestions aimed at success in higher education
- Speakers knowledgeable about transition planning and inclusive post-secondary education for professional education days and other professional development opportunities
- Webinars/presenters aimed at families for transition fairs, college nights, etc.
- Information about making the business case for school district funding of these programs

For Support Coordinators, Achieva offers:

- Information about inclusive post-secondary educational programs for students with intellectual disabilities and how they can be funded with Medicaid waivers.
- Information about other financial resources that will help a student pay for college
- Evaluation and consultation around your client's transition plan

For Colleges and Universities, Achieva offers ongoing support in the following areas:

- Information about public funds available to support students and programs
- Introductions to families and prospective students

- Blueprint of Accessibility - individualized support plans (ISP) tailored to the needs of students enrolled in your program
- Connections to outside agencies, advocacy groups, and Medicaid providers available to support student in your program

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