

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SENDING YOUR STUDENT WITH ID TO AN INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

ESTIMATED COSTS

Inclusive higher education programs in Colorado provide alternate enrollment pathways and additional supports on campus for students with intellectual disability to pursue their goals. While college costs may seem daunting, there are many sources of funding available to students with disabilities. We hope this document will encourage you to investigate available options and to contact program staff directly for more info.

Common costs for students enrolled in an inclusive higher education program include:

- Tuition and fees: Same cost per credit, fewer credits taken each semester (3-9 credits/semester)
- Program fee for inclusive services: Costs vary for each program
- Room and board, if applicable

*Be sure to reach out to each program directly for cost details. See school specific costs at the links below:

- Elevate at ACC: <https://www.arapahoe.edu/admissions/paying-college/tuition-fees>
- RAM Scholars at CSU: <https://admissions.colostate.edu/cost-financial-aid/>
- IHES at MSU Denver: <https://www.msudenver.edu/cost/>
- GLOBAL at Regis University: <https://www.regis.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-fees>
- GOAL at UNC: <https://www.unco.edu/unc-goal/costs-and-aid.aspx>
- Inclusive Services at UCCS: <https://inclusiveservices.uccs.edu/financial-information>

POTENTIAL FUNDING RESOURCES

Federal Financial Aid - Grants & Work Study:

The inclusive higher education programs at ACC, UCCS, UNC, and Regis have all received Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) status, which allows students with ID to apply for Federal Financial Aid. Please note, under inclusive services, students may be eligible for Pell Grants and work study funds, but not student loans due to their modified certificate. Aid is variable based on the expected family contribution as calculated on the FAFSA. This calculation includes many factors – family size, family income, number of children in college, tax filing, etc.

To learn more about financial aid see:

<https://studentaid.gov/h/understand-aid>

<https://thinkcollege.net/questions-and-answers-about-free-application-federal-student-aid>

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation:

“Students with intellectual disabilities may be able to access support from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to help defray some of the cost of a college education while working to achieve their employment goals. DVR’s services are very individualized, so families are encouraged to discuss available supports with their counselor.” Aid is variable and dependent, amongst other variables, on the individual’s career goals as well as the financial situation of the family.

To learn more about DVR, visit: <https://dvr.colorado.gov/dvr-programs-and-services>

Community Centered Board (CCB) Support:

The CCB in your area might offer various scholarships or self-determination funds to support your student's pursuit of higher education. It is worthwhile to contact your CCB and ask about their available supports as support varies across each board.

To find your CCB in Colorado, visit: <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/community-centered-boards>

Scholarships:

There are a variety of available scholarships for students pursuing inclusive higher education, including private, school-based, local, national, disability-based, and some program-specific scholarships. We encourage families to research a variety of scholarship options and contact program staff regarding scholarships in your region.

Browse ThinkCollege's publication with lists of various disability-related scholarships:

https://thinkcollege.net/sites/default/files/files/resources/HTTC11_Scholarships_R.pdf

Saving Accounts:

ABLE accounts are savings accounts designed for individuals with disabilities and their families. Funds within ABLE accounts can be used to support inclusive higher education.

To learn more, go to <https://www.coloradoable.org/>