

Back to School with Inclusive Higher Education

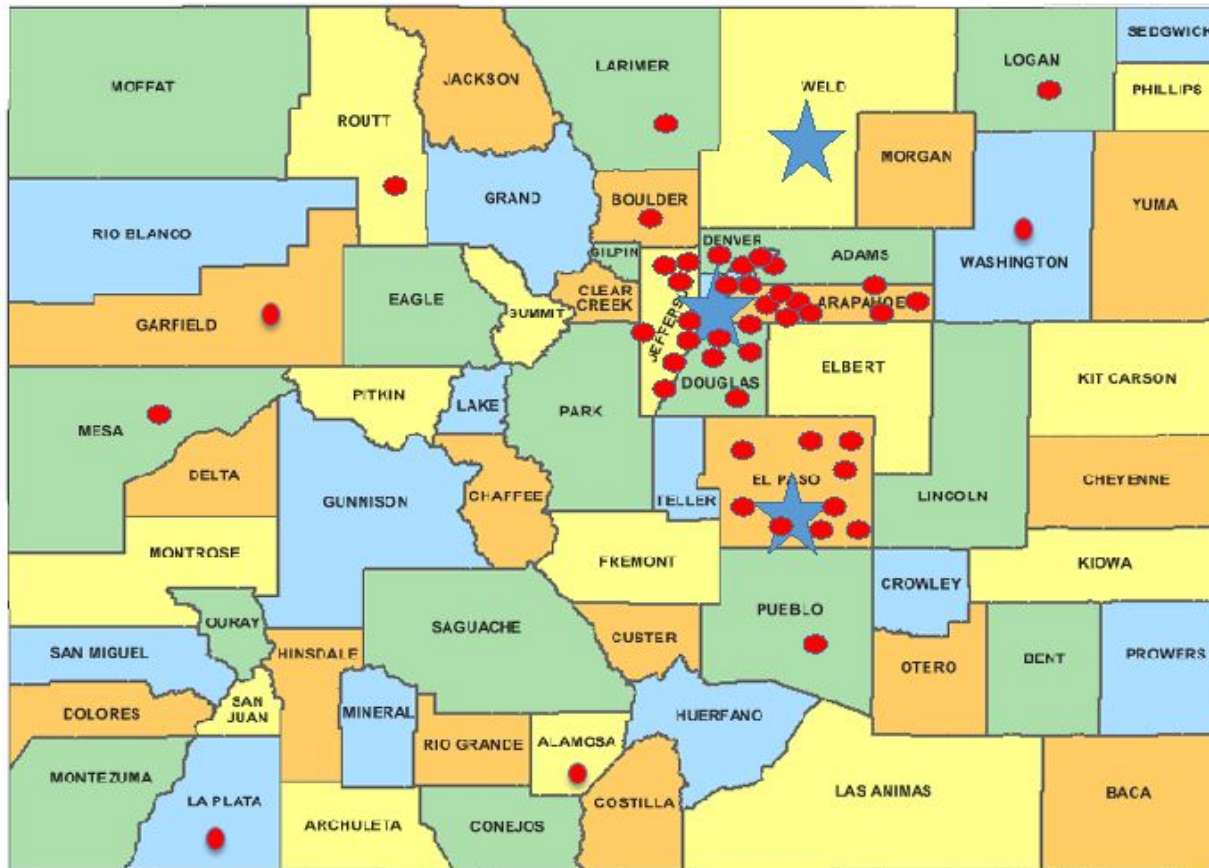
August 26, 2020



Founded in 2014

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

Student Hometowns



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Students also access CO IHE from out of state:
Texas, New Mexico, Florida, Virginia and Michigan

In This Presentation

- Updates on inclusive higher education programs in Colorado
- How our school partners and their students are adapting to COVID-19
- Preparing for college + resources for families
- Projects IN! has underway to support teachers
- Questions and answers

Inclusive Higher Education in Colorado

Disability Services

- Various disabilities
- Traditionally accepted
- Academic accommodations only
 - Extra time
 - Quiet location
 - Preferential seating
 - Sign language interpreter
 - Scribe
 - Assistive tech.

Comprehensive Services

- Various disabilities, many students w/ autism
- Traditionally accepted
- Beyond academic support – social, vocational, organization, etc.

Inclusive Services

- Primarily intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Not traditionally accepted to college
- Receive accommodations *and* modifications
- Support domains: academic, social, vocational, and independent living

Disability Services

- All schools of higher education

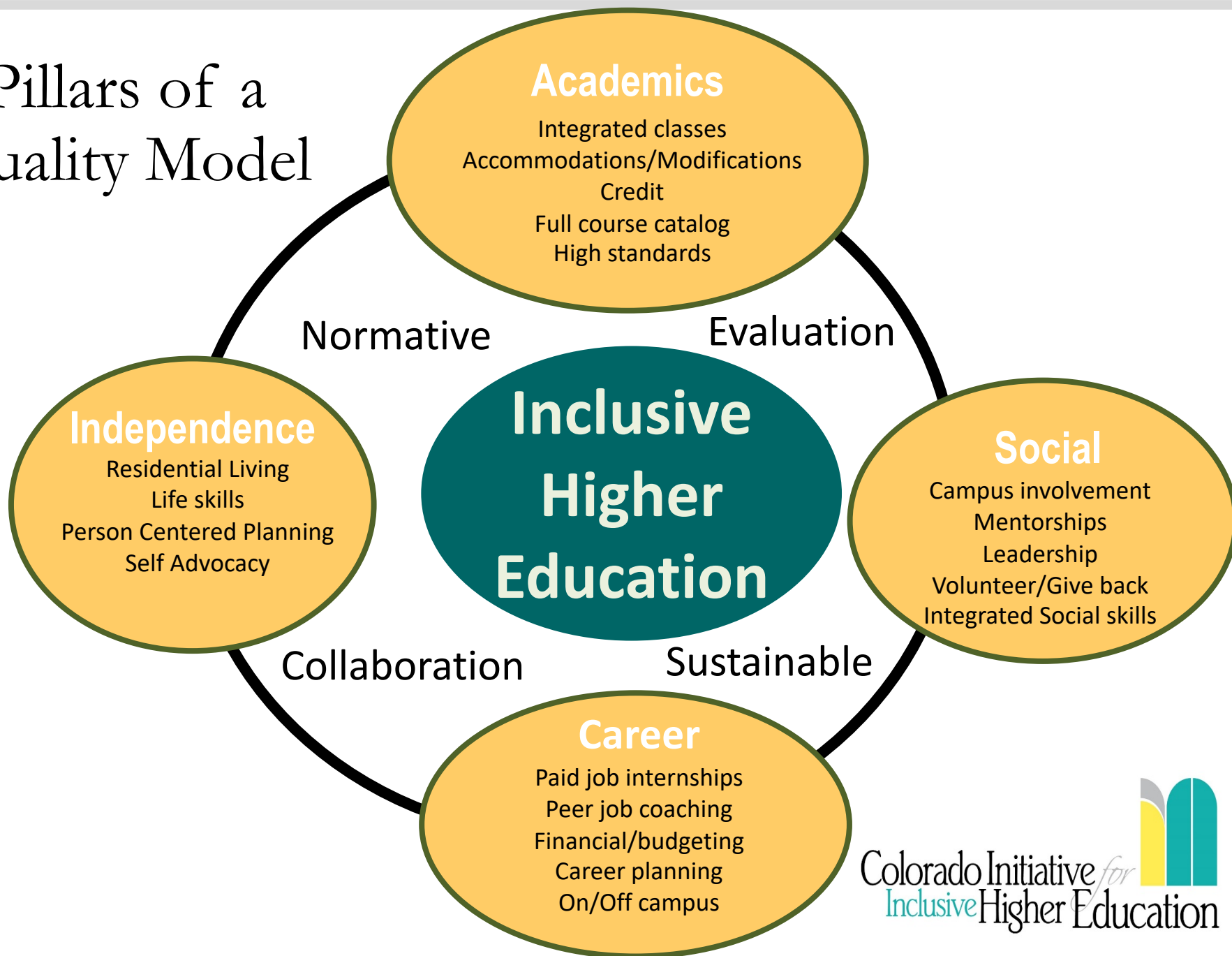
Comprehensive Services

- Learning Effectiveness Program at University of Denver
- CHOICES/
Opportunities for Postsecondary Success at Colorado State University
- Metropolitan State University of Denver
- Integrated Supports for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Inclusive Services

- Elevate at Arapahoe Community College
- GOAL at University of Northern Colorado
- Office of Inclusive Services at University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Pillars of a Quality Model







How to Learn More

- Webinar overview:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dJQx4b8PCrQ>
- College options: <https://inclusivehighered.org/college-options/colorado-inclusive-higher-education-act/overview.html>
- Set up a meeting with Shelby: shelbyb@inclusivehighered.org
- Reading: *Navigating the Transition from High School to College for Students with Disabilities*, [link](#)

Updates on Inclusive Higher Education

Comprehensive Higher Education Certificate

- Developed by Colorado Inclusion Consortium
 - Approved and awarded by each institute of higher education
- Similar across 3 schools
 - ACC – 3 years, UNC and UCCS – 4 years
 - 36-72 credit hours
- Academic, vocational, social/independence



3 year overview	Academic Coursework	Vocational Preparation	Personal Development	Student Engagement
Fall Semester 1 (7 credits)	Summer Bridge: ☐ AAA 101 (1) Fall: ☐ CIS 118 (3) ☐ AAA 109 (3)	Meeting with campus career counselor Focus 2 career assessment	Elevate Workshop & Study Hall Series Frequent check-ins & person-centered planning with Elevate staff Long and short term goal development & planning	Student Support - Tutoring center - Writing center - Math Lab - Student Success Center - Student Access Services - Testing Center - Faculty office hours - Individualized academic planning Campus Involvement: - Clubs and Organizations - Elevate Club - ACC activities - National Society of Leadership and Success
Spring Semester 2 (8 credits)	☐ CCR 092 (5) ☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____	Continued exploration with career counselor Identified career goal and next steps		
Fall Semester 3 (6-7 credits)	☐ MAR 106 (3) ☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____ ☐ Optional: elective (1) _____	On-campus job experience: - Work study - Volunteer - Paid/unpaid Community based job placement in area of study		
Spring Semester 4 (6 credits)	☐ COM 125 (3) ☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____			
Fall Semester 5 (6 credits)	☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____ ☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____			
Spring Semester 6 (3 credits)	☐ 1 course from area of study (3) _____			
Overall:	36 credits 18 in comprehensive courses + 18 in selected area of study	On-campus work experience(s) Community based internship/job shadow(s)	Active participation in Elevate workshops and study hall sessions	Participation in at least 6 campus clubs/organizations, and/or events each semester

Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Program (CTP)

- In order to be approved as a CTP program, a program must meet the following requirements:
 - Be delivered to students physically attending the institute of higher education.
 - Be offered by an institute of higher education that is participating in Title IV Federal Student Aid.
 - Be designed to support students with intellectual disability in preparation for employment.
 - Include an advising and curriculum structure.
 - Provide *at least* 50% of the program time in academics (college courses for credit or for audit, or internships) with other students without intellectual disabilities.
 - Have a Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy
 - Must offer a credential or have identified outcomes for students
 - Have an established program length in weeks of instructional time and equivalent clock or credit hours.

Reference: <https://thinkcollege.net/think-college-learn/comprehensive-transition-programs/requirements-comprehensive-transition-programs>

CTP Status Colorado

- Elevate at Arapahoe Community College (ACC)
 - <https://www.arapahoe.edu/advising-support/student-access-services/elevate-acc>
 - Approved Jan 2019
- GOAL at University of Northern Colorado (UNC)
 - <https://www.unco.edu/unc-goal/>
 - Approved April 2019
- Office of Inclusive Services at University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS)
 - <https://www.uccs.edu/inclusiveservices/>
 - In process



Financial Aid

- CTP status leads to financial aid access
 - Grants (Pell)
 - Work study
 - Not eligible for loans
- Do not have to meet traditional financial aid requirements
 - Not required to have a high school diploma or GED
 - Not required to be pursuing a degree
- Federal Financial Aid: <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements/intellectual-disabilities>
- Funding options: <https://inclusivehighered.org/college-options/funding.html>
- Webinar recording on Financial Variables in Inclusive Higher Education: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbmxBJddA2U&t=1s>

COVID-19

- Academics
 - Fully remote or hybrid of in-person and virtual courses
 - CTP usually requires in-person courses
- Career
 - Varies by student based on their comfort and their career area
 - All continuing to develop vocational skills (ex: mock interviews, resumes, etc.)
- Social
 - Limited on campus activities
 - Peer mentors planning virtual events
 - IN! student happy hours



Preparing for College

(Keeping it simple)

Think College

- National Coordinating Center for Inclusive Higher Education
 - Go to for resources and information
 - <https://thinkcollege.net/>
- [Foundational Skills for College and Career Learning Plan](#)
 - Academic and Career habits
 - Balance of multiple roles
 - Self-direction



Resources for Parents – Students in College

- From advocate to advisor
- Parent group launching September 2020
- Webinars throughout the year with resources
 - ABLE, Medicaid Waivers, etc.
 - Benefits Counseling Webinar
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhsTI2oXYIY&t=945s>
 - Guide: <https://apse.org/download/colorado-apse-a-benefits-counseling-guide/>
- Families Think College on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1065141630294756/>

12th Grade / Transition

- College search during COVID
 - Virtual program open houses
 - Applications usually open between December and March
 - General college virtual information sessions
 - [UNC virtual visits](#)
 - [ACC virtual visits](#)
 - [UCCS virtual visits](#)

Helpful tool: [Conducting a College Search - Questions to Ask](#)

- Technology skills
 - Calendar, video conferencing, virtual registrations, check email

High School

- Discuss your disability
 - Can you identify your disability?
 - What are your strengths and weaknesses?
 - What sort of support do you need academically and socially?
 - What college options are aligned with those needs?
- Highlight career goals and how those align with college
 - Use district and community resources

Middle School

- Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
 - Do you have a vocational and postsecondary goal?
 - Does the goal include steps to achieve it?
 - [Think College IEP resources](#)
- Education setting in middle school informs high school education setting
 - Are you included in general education classrooms?



Elementary

- Encourage students to dream!
 - Many students with disabilities are never asked if they want to go to college



Supporting Teachers

Projects

- Continuing education modules for teachers
- Denver Public Schools College and Career curriculum
- Interested in helping pilot a project? Reach out!



K-12 and Inclusive Higher Education

- Upcoming webinar series (schedule coming soon)
 - Student to student presentations
 - Teacher trainings
- Other opportunities
 - Coordinating virtual campus visits for classes
 - Class presentations
 - Presentations at staff meetings or other continuing education events
 - Phone call consultations
- Want to be more involved? Reach out!

Questions and Answers

Conclusion

How Can You Help?

- Ask questions – reach out to IN! and schools
 - Let us know how we can support you
- Inform others of the options
 - Families with young children with disabilities
 - School professionals
 - Case managers
- Share our message on social media
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/inclusivehighered/
- Sign up for our newsletter to stay up-to-date
 - <https://inclusivehighered.org/news-events/join-us.html>

Together we can redefine
what IS possible
for students with
disabilities!

Contact Us

Website: inclusivehighered.org

*For more information on inclusive higher education, check out ThinkCollege.net

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Our Education and Outreach program is generously supported by the Harvey Family Foundation



School Contacts

- GOAL at University of Northern Colorado (UNC)
 - <https://www.unco.edu/unc-goal/>
- Elevate at Arapahoe Community College (ACC)
 - <https://www.arapahoe.edu/advising-support/student-access-services/elevate-acc>
- Office of Inclusive Services at University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS)
 - <https://www.uccs.edu/inclusiveservices/>

Partners

IN! is fortunate to have strategic partners who have the shared belief that individuals with ID should have the opportunity to pursue a college education that provides the potential for achieving a more fulfilling and independent life.



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