



PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION



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STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (ID) CAN PURSUE HIGHER EDUCATION IN CO!

Inclusive higher education (IHE) allows students with ID to continue their education and preparation for competitive, integrated employment and a more independent life.

Accessing all the benefits of a college education, IHE students earn a certificate in their area of study and graduate with greater independence, self-determination, & in-demand skills.

Joining the 360+ IHE opportunities nationwide, Colorado offers IHE pathways at 8 institutions:



BENEFITS AND SERVICES OF IHE IN COLORADO:

- Students participate in person-centered planning regarding academic and vocational goal attainment
- Students receive robust support through individualized advising, peer mentors, and specialized skills training
- Beyond what is typically available at the college level, IHE provides additional support to students in 4 pillars: (1) Vocational Preparation, (2) Academic Access, (3) Social Skill Development, & (4) Greater Independence

PILLARS OF SUPPORT	IHE SERVICES	GRADUATE OUTCOMES (state average from 2023-2025)
Vocational Preparation	<p>Students engage in progressive vocational preparation via career exploration and planning, pre-employment training, work experiences and internship placements. IHE staff support each student's vocational skill development in accordance with their person-centered plan.</p> <p><u>Workplace implication:</u> Progressive work experiences provide students with hard skills, equipping graduates to attain competitive, integrated employment in their chosen field.</p>	<p>83% Competitively employed across 7+ job industries</p>
Academic Access	<p>Students are fully included in college courses, earning an institutionally-approved certificate in their chosen area of study. Students receive both accommodations and modifications to coursework as needed.</p> <p><u>Workplace implication:</u> Coursework aligns with career goals and allows for critical skill development and hands on experience in a desired field.</p>	<p>100% Earn a credit-bearing certificate or higher</p>
Social Skill Development	<p>Students are fully included across campus activities and programs, engaging in normative scenarios that develop critical thinking, decision making, interpersonal relationship management, and communication skills.</p> <p><u>Workplace implication:</u> Structured social experiences prepare students for appropriate communication with future employers, coworkers, and customers.</p>	<p>89% Say IHE prepared them to engage in their community</p>
Greater Independence	<p>Students navigate campus and the surrounding community with independence while receiving direct instruction in essential life skills, such as financial management, time and task management, independent living, self-advocacy, and more.</p> <p><u>Workplace implication:</u> Development of soft skills allows graduates to maintain and retain employment while reducing reliance on long-term employment supports.</p>	<p>78% Say IHE prepared them for their current living situation</p>

