

Institute on Disabilities



# Leadership & Career Studies



Leadership & Career Studies at the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University provides an authentic four-year college experience for students with intellectual disability or intellectual disability and autism.

The program develops students' academic abilities, career skills and social maturity while promoting self-determination and independence so that graduates live the life of their choosing as productive citizens in the community.

## REQUIREMENTS

Students must have intellectual disability or intellectual disability and autism as documented through the County Office of Intellectual Disabilities in which the student resides. Students must also:

- Be ages 18-26;
- Have the ability to pay for classes through service funds, grants or privately;
- Have transportation to Temple's main campus;
- Be available to attend day and evening classes;
- Participate in extracurricular activities for a minimum of 10 hours per week.

## PRINCIPLES

In Leadership & Career Studies, students:

- Select courses based on their interests;
- Participate in a variety of employment experiences related to their career goals;
- Develop relationships with Temple classmates as they set and achieve academic, career, and personal goals; and
- Determine and direct the supports they need.



## **COMPONENTS**

#### Academics

Students enroll in a series of core courses designed to promote leadership and diversity, and choose a variety of elective courses. They have the opportunity to earn a certificate in Diversity and Inclusion through the College of Education and Human Development.

#### Career

Students participate in a variety of employment experiences based on their preferences, and develop skills necessary for employment in their preferred field. Enrichment workshops cover topics like self-determination, career development, and computer skills.

## PEER MENTORS

Each student in Leadership & Career Studies is matched with a Temple student mentor who supports them in accessing the university's rich resources. Current Temple students in good standing are recruited, hired, trained, and supervised by Leadership & Career Studies staff at the Institute on Disabilities to serve as effective and supportive guides. Mentors support students as they participate in academic, recreational, and social activities.

### Supports

Mentors provide support as students engage in campus academics and extracurricular activities.

#### **Advisors**

Program advisors work with each student to set and work toward goals and access the supports they need to be successful with their academic, career, and personal development.

#### **Objectives**

- Assess personal strengths and opportunities for growth related to career exploration and development.
- Access career resources to develop employment goals and objectives.
- Improve communication and leadership abilities.
- Develop skills to facilitate independence.

## **INFORMATION**

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