



College Steps + Department of Vocational Rehab Support Program - 2019-2020

Program Overview:

College Steps is a non profit organization whos primary goal is to support students to develop meaningful careers and increased autonomy after graduation. College Steps places a strong emphasis on self-advocacy, employment training, and independent living skill development. Each College Steps Program is coordinated by a full-time, on-campus, Program Coordinator. The Coordinators supervise and train a network of Peer Mentors, who are undergraduates interested in supporting the various needs of College Steps participants. College Steps' student-center approach to learning involves the student in every aspect of the design of the Individualized College Plan (ICP). The ICP ultimately serves as a road map, outlining areas of need and tracking progress throughout the student's college experience. College Steps' ICP can include the following four components:

- i. Academic Enrichment
- ii. Social Integration
- iii. Living and Independence
- iv. Pre-employment skill development

Seeking Referrals from Voc Rehab:

As part of a new Voc Rehab Pilot, College Steps will support up to 15 non DDS VR eligible students for the 2019-2020 academic year. These individuals must be eligible for VR services and be between the ages of 18-30. These individuals will be identified by the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Counsleors to receive targeted supports by the College Steps team. Space permitting, these students will be equally divided across all three campus locations (Johnson/ Lyndon/ Castleton), or flexed to accommodate demand at a specific location. These supports will assist students with necessary counseling to engage each student on campus and support for class related assignments and activities.

Each referred student will receive the minimum of 4 hours per week of support and up to the maximum of 10 hours per week of support. The team at College steps will determine the hours needed for each referred student and will develop their service plan accordingly.

Referrals can invlove indiviuadals with a broad history or background for support, but they must have the common goal of attending college or taking a class to assist in advancing their career.

Scope of Support:

- Students will each benefit from an Individualized College Plan (ICP) during their participation in College Steps
- Access to check in or check outs with the Program Coordinator and/or mentors to review goals
- Facilitation of academic accommodations and counseling
- Facilitation of academic advising
- Promotion of self-advocacy skills
- Class preparation and/or guidance with assignment preparation
- Access to group-based supports for homework

- Access to the College Steps weekly Community Skills Class (life skills to include pre-ETS services)

Application Process

Interested students can apply on the College Steps website

<https://www.collegesteps.org/apply>

This link directs you to the general application on our website which can be accessed directly through our website as well. When students are filling out the application they'll see on page 2 that it asks what campus they're interested in and then the college steps model that describes their track. **For students coming through VR they will choose "Vocational Rehabilitation Support Services"** (other options are College Student, High School Transition Services, 2 year certificate program). The other options are all for our traditional contracted students so VR applicants should indicate VocRehab Support Services.

We don't want the application to be a barrier for individuals or families so please refer potential candidates to myself or the campus based coordinators so we can set up a meeting or campus visit if that may be a better first step for anyone.

Contacts:

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Castleton Program Coordinator – Patty Moore

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