

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Program

Jerel Booker

Assistant Commissioner for
College Readiness and Success
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DEFINITION

Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 4, Subchapter A, Section 4.12

- (a) For the purpose of this rule, Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) will be defined as a neurodevelopmental disorder that must meet the following criteria:
- (1) Deficits in intellectual functions, such as reasoning, problem solving, planning, abstract thinking, judgement, academic learning, and learning from experience.
 - (2) Deficits in adaptive functioning that result in failure to meet developmental and sociocultural standards for personal independence and social responsibility. Without ongoing support, the adaptive deficits limit functioning in one or more activities of daily life, such a communication, social participation, and independent living, across multiple environments, such as home, school, work and community.
 - (3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection may occur after the developmental period (such as in the case of a traumatic brain injury).
 - (4) Students with IDD may include those diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

COMMON RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES

- Presenting information at secondary schools (85.7 percent).
- Participating in career or transition fairs (81.0 percent).
- Distributing materials about programs and services for students with IDD (76.2 percent).
- Including information for potential students with IDD in general college materials (76.2 percent).
- Collaborating with the Texas Workforce Commission – Vocational Rehabilitation Services (TWC-VR) to connect with populations that may benefit from these programs.

COMMONLY CITED LIMITATIONS

- Having insufficient time and staff to address appropriately the needs for these recruitment efforts.
- Inability of students with IDD to attend recruitment activities due to unavailability of transportation.
- Lack of financial aid for students enrolling in certain types of transitional programs for students with IDD.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Implement and/or Replicate the Following:

- UT Austin partnership with Special Olympics to create a Special Olympics University camp on campus. This helps introduce the idea of postsecondary education for adults with IDD from a trusted organization.
- Lone Star College offers lifePATH[®], a comprehensive 4-year program for individuals with IDD and other disabilities. lifePATH[®] encourages personal growth, academic and workplace preparation. lifePATH[®] is a data-driven and research-based program designed for students looking for both academic and career skills.
- Establish THECB Advise TX program partnership with the Texas Workforce Commission to include services for IDD students.
- Expand THECB Work-Study Mentorship Program to include services for IDD students and their families.