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*Learn Differently. Achieve More.*


**Transition Options for After High School**  
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## Introduction and Overview



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 Founder, Bass Educational Services



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- College Readiness
- Alternative Paths
- College Spectrum of Support
- Resources

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## What is the Ultimate Goal?

- Getting into college?
- Getting a good job?
- Earning a college degree?
- Learning a vocational skill?
- Finding a career?

The ultimate goal is for the student to develop into an **independent, resilient young adult**, capable of living on their own to the extent that they are able.



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## The Emerging Young Adult

### Characteristics:

- Identity exploration
- Instability
- Self-focus
- Feeling in-between: no longer an adolescent; not yet an adult

### Emerging Adulthood

A stage of development between adolescence and adulthood, from ages 18 – 25

**Note:** For ADHD and ASD teens may be prolonged or delayed



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Emerging Adulthood:, Arnett, J, 2014

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## Too Much Scaffolding?

- Extra help from teachers
- Tutors for every subject
- Coach for time management and organization
- Parents helping with work or “reminders”




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WE'RE TRYING TO RECONCILE HER NEED FOR INDEPENDENCE WITH OUR ABILITY TO RUN HER LIFE BETTER THAN SHE DOES.

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## Planning for College

- Consider student's academic, emotional, and social needs in selecting colleges
- A good overall fit is extremely important for students with different learning styles
- The college search should be a student-driven process



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# College Readiness

The diagram features a central teal stool-like icon with three legs and a circular top. To the left of the stool is an icon of a stack of books, labeled "Academic Ability". To the right is an icon of a hand holding a pen, with three faces (two sad, one happy) above it, labeled "Emotional Regulation". Below the stool is an icon of two people talking, labeled "Social Skills".

**Academic Ability**

**Emotional Regulation**

**Social Skills**

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## Documentation Required for College Accommodations and Transition Programs

- Full battery of testing within 3 years of admission
- WAIS-IV (16+ years old)
- Tests of Achievement (i.e., Woodcock-Johnson IV)
- List of recommended college accommodations with a rationale for each
- Specific rationale for math and foreign language substitution

A photograph of a person's hands writing in a notebook on a desk. The person is wearing a patterned shirt. The background is blurred, showing a classroom setting.

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# Alternate Paths to College

- Post-graduate year
- Transition programs
- Independent life skills programs
- Internship programs
- Gap year programs



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## Alternative Programs

PG Year and Transition Programs	Independent Life Skills Programs	Internship Programs
<p>A transition year at a boarding school or a stand-alone program in preparation for college</p> <p><b>Typical student:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor executive functioning skills</li> <li>• Weak academic skills</li> <li>• Not an independent learner</li> </ul>	<p>An academic or career-focused program for students with Autism and other social communication challenges to develop independent living skills</p> <p><b>Typical student:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not independently perform activities of daily living (waking up, taking meds, self-care, cooking)</li> <li>• Has poor social communication skills</li> <li>• Has poor executive functioning skills</li> <li>• Needs one-on-one academic tutoring or career-coaching</li> </ul>	<p>A program for students to discover their capabilities, improve time management and organization, and develop a strong work-ethic</p> <p><b>Typical student:</b></p> <p>A high school graduate who is not ready for college or who needs assistance with their direction in life</p>

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# Alternative Programs

PG Year and Transition Programs	Independent Life Skills Programs	Internship Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Franklin Academy (FLI)</li> <li>Maplebrook School (ICCS)</li> <li>Landmark College (TaC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mansfield Hall</li> <li>College Internship Program</li> <li>College Living Experience</li> <li>Chapel Haven (Reach/ASAT)</li> <li>VISTA Life Innovations</li> <li>Berkshire Hills Music Academy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broad Futures</li> <li>Dynamy Internship Year</li> </ul>



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## Gap Year Programs

[GapYearAssociation.org](http://GapYearAssociation.org)

**Travel**



**Internships**



**Community Service**



**Employment**



**Goals of Gap Year**

- Leadership
- Self-confidence
- Social skills
- Emotional growth
- Independence




Experiential Learning



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# Think College

ThinkCollege.net

## For Students with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

- 2- 3- and 4-year programs
  - Live on campus in most programs
  - Take courses with modified assignments
  - May be same classes as degree-seeking students
  - Opportunity to participate in campus life and activities
- **George Mason LIFE**
  - **Beyond Academics at UNC Greensboro**
  - **Syracuse InclusiveU**



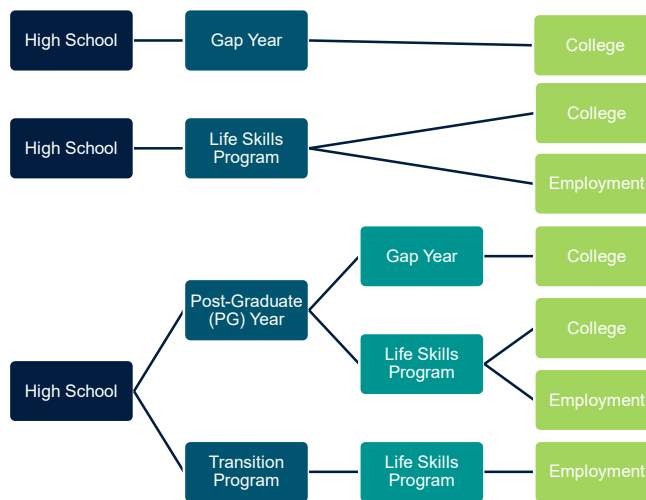
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# Many Paths Can Lead to Success



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## Range of Support

- Basic ADA Compliance
- Moderate Support Services
- Comprehensive Support Program
- Social Support Program




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## Spectrum of Support at the College Level

Services (No Fee)		Program (Fee-based)	
Basic ADA Compliance	Moderate	Comprehensive	Social Support
Basic accommodations offered	Sensitivity to learning differences, many accommodations offered	Separate program for learning disabilities, part of college community	Separate program for students with ASD or social communication disorders
No professional learning specialist	Learning Center staffed by professional with degree	Full time director and several staff members	Provides structured social support through activities and mentoring
Need to be self-advocate	Help to advocate for student, student still needs to seek out assistance	May be involved in admissions process, may communicate directly with professors, advocate on behalf of student	Students are part of college community; may provide separate housing or match roommates
No distraction-reduced environment for tests	Distraction-reduced environment for tests, usually in Learning Support Center	Distraction-reduced environment for tests in Learning Support Center, may have trained proctors	Learning specialists act as case managers and may assist students in advocating with professors
Peer tutors may be available	Peer or professional tutors	Professional tutors	Professional tutors
	Support groups/workshops May have coaching model and mentoring	Support groups/workshops Self-advocacy groups, social skills groups; coach/mentor	Individual/small group support; transition and some life skills support
	Specialized summer programs (separate fee) or orientation	Specialized summer orientation programs	Specialized summer programs; may have separate orientation
	Organizational and Study Skills assistance, drop-in or appt, initiated by student	Organizational Skills and Time Management coaching, may meet 3 – 5 hours/week, individual or small groups	Organizational Skills and Time Management coaching, may meet 3 – 5 hours/week, individual/small groups


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## College Levels of Support

Moderate Support	Comprehensive Programs	Social Support Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University of Tampa (FL)</li> <li>Longwood University (VA)</li> <li>College of Charleston (SC)</li> <li>Syracuse University (NY)</li> <li>Oberlin College (OH)</li> <li>Southern Methodist/SMU (TX)</li> <li>American University (DC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dean College (MA)</li> <li>Hofstra University (NY)</li> <li>Mercyhurst University (PA)</li> <li>Curry College (MA)</li> <li>Lynn University (FL)</li> <li>University of the Ozarks (AR)</li> <li>McDaniel College (MD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rochester Institute of Tech (NY)</li> <li>University of Connecticut</li> <li>Adelphi University (NY)</li> <li>Mercyhurst University (PA)</li> <li>Marshall University (WV)</li> <li>Bridgewater College (VA)</li> <li>University of Delaware</li> </ul>





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## Resources for Creating College List

Books	Online
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Fiske Guide</b> by Edward Fiske</li> <li><b>K&amp;W Guide to Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities</b> by Marybeth Kravitz and Imy Wax</li> <li><b>The College Finder</b> by Steven Antonoff</li> <li><b>College Match</b> by Steven Antonoff</li> <li><b>Colleges That Change Lives</b> by Loren Pope</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>CollegeWebLD</b></li> <li><b>CollegeExpress</b></li> <li><b>Think College</b></li> <li><b>College Navigator</b></li> <li><b>Peterson's Guide</b></li> </ul>



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# Questions?

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## THANK YOU!



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