Establishing your FPCTP as a Federal Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) Program

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Think College

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NATIONAL COORDINATING CENTER

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Agenda

- What is a comprehensive transition and postsecondary (CTP) program?
- Why should I apply to be a CTP?
- What are the steps to becoming a CTP?
- How do I write a successful CTP application?

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Higher Education Opportunity Act (2008)

HEOA

Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities

TPSID

=
Model demonstration program

Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Programs

CTP

=
Federal financial aid

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COLLEGE OPTIONS *offering Federal Financial Aid*, November 2017 (N=73)

WA 2
OR 1
CA 1
7
MT
ID
WY
NV
UT
CO 1
ND
SD
NE
KS 1
MN 3
IA 1
MO 3
WI
IL 4
MI
IN
OH 4
KY 2
TN 5
AR 2
OK
TX
NM
AZ
NC 3
SC 5
GA 5
MS
AL
LA 3
FL 3
NY 4
PA 5
WV
VA 2
VT
ME
NH
MA
CT
NJ 1
RI 1
DE 1
MD
AK
HI

As of November 30, 2017
From https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/intellectual-disabilities

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www.thinkcollege.net

CTP defined in the
Higher Education Opportunity Act (2008)

(a) Comprehensive transition and postsecondary program means a degree, certificate, non-degree, or non-certificate program that—

(1) Is offered by a participating institution;

(2) Is delivered to students physically attending the institution;

(3) Is designed to support students with intellectual disabilities who are seeking to continue academic, career and technical, and independent living instruction at an institution of higher education in order to prepare for ~~gainful~~ employment;

(4) Includes an advising and curriculum structure;

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CTP defined in the
Higher Education Opportunity Act (2008)

 (5) Requires students with intellectual disabilities to have <u>at least </u>one-half of their participation in the program, as determined by the institution, focus on academic components through one or more of the following activities:
(i) Taking credit-bearing courses with students without disabilities.
(ii) Auditing or otherwise participating in courses with students without disabilities for which the student does not receive regular academic credit.
(iii) Taking non-credit-bearing, non-degree courses with students without disabilities.
(iv) Participating in internships or work-based training in settings with individuals without disabilities; and

(6) Provides students with intellectual disabilities opportunities to participate in coursework and other activities with students without disabilities.

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What is a CTP?

- Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) Program

- Pathway to Title IV (i.e., federal) financial aid for students with intellectual disability (ID)

- Traditional requirements for accessing Title IV financial aid:
  - Required to be working toward a degree or certificate
  - Required to have a high school diploma, GED, or have passed an ability-to-benefit test

CTP removes these barriers for students with ID

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What is it not?

- Accreditation
- An indication of the quality of a program
- Access to loans or scholarships

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Why should I apply to be a CTP?

Access to financial aid for students with ID

Recognition on US Dept. of Education website

Legitimize your efforts on campus

In FL: to be approved as a FPCTP (--> grant funding, student scholarships)

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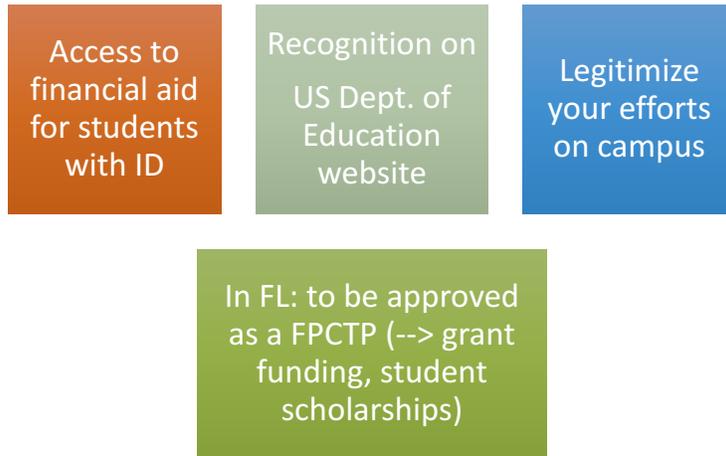
Eligible student with ID with financial need

Program approved as CTP

Access to Title IV financial aid

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant
- Federal Work-Study

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If we are approved, which students are eligible?

- Students who:
  - Have a documented intellectual disability
  - Are no longer served under IDEA (i.e., not dually enrolled)
  - Have a documented need for financial aid by completing FAFSA

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How is ID defined for CTP?

(b) Student with an intellectual disability means a student—

(1) With a cognitive impairment characterized by significant limitations in—

(i) Intellectual and cognitive functioning; and

(ii) Adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills; and

(2) Who is currently, or was formerly, eligible for special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. 1401), including a student who was determined eligible for special education or related services under the IDEA but was home-schooled or attended private school.

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What are the steps to becoming a CTP?

- Meet with your financial aid office
- Financial aid office adds CTP to the IHE's E-App
- Prepare a detailed narrative, Satisfactory Academic Progress policy, and letter to accrediting agency
- Notify IHE's accrediting agency in writing
- Submit application to DOE....wait......respond to queries

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How do I write a successful CTP application?

- You must offer a meaningful credential
  - See resources from Think College (next slide)
- You need a Satisfactory Academic Progress policy
  - Start with your college or university SAP and adapt from there
- Your course of study should be based on inclusive coursework
  - A lot easier if you have built your program from the standpoint of inclusion (harder to try to retrofit a more specialized program into CTP requirements)
- You have to notify your IHE's accrediting agency in writing
  - Just a notification but can be tricky depending on your state

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What does it mean to offer a meaningful credential?

Resources from Think College

- Insight Brief
- Credential Action Planning Tool
- Fast Facts

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Tips for a successful application

Provided by staff of the Financial Services Administration at the US Department of Education, and by proposal reviewers.

TIP #1: Use page numbers and your institution's name in the header of your program description

TIP#2: Remember – there is a 30 page limit for the description, including appendices!

TIP#3: Make sure all program requirements are addressed -- use the Application Template on www.thinkcollege.net and the checklist

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Tips for a successful application

TIP#4: Clearly identify when each requirement is being addressed by citing the component of the regulation. (The template will help you to do this.)

TIP #5: Be clear and explicit about your program's operations – provide examples!

TIP#6: Include supporting materials in the appendix – but be sure to explain the purpose of each attachment in the body of the application narrative.

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Tips from reviewers

- Share a concrete and measurable way to assess attainment in college courses, particularly audit or non-credit courses.
- Show how you will measure progress in non-academic aspects of the program such as career development, independent living and social skills.
- Clearly state the expected student outcomes of the program
- Have a balanced approach and address all requirements of a CTP program (academics, employment, independent living, and social skills)
- Include all aspects of a program in the clock hours calculation. Be sure to include career development and employment, independent living and social skills activities that are part of the course of study and require completion to earn the program credential.

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We are a CTP! Now what?

- Meet with your financial aid office
- Establish a process for sharing information:
  - You need to know FAFSA info ("expected family contribution" or EFC) for students with ID
  - The financial aid office needs to know that you have documentation of ID for each student
  - A shared Google spreadsheet is a useful tool
- Students and families will need support with FAFSA – they may not have heard of it or understand it
  - As much as possible, have the financial aid office provide this support

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