



EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

# The Cutting Edge Program

*Inclusion, Acceptance, & Belonging*

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## Edgewood College

- Located minutes from the Capitol Square, on 55 acres on the shore of Lake Wingra
- Approximately 1500 students
- On-Campus Residents: 520
- Over 50 clubs and 18 collegiate sports
- Rooted in Dominican values: Truth, Compassion, Justice, Partnership, and Community



# Student Demographics

- 35% female, 65% male
- 65% of students come from Wisconsin
- 17% of students have an Autism-Spectrum Disorder
- 21% of students have Down syndrome
- 62% of our students have Cerebral Palsy, Traumatic Brain Injury,, Learning Disability, Speech and Language Disability, and Other Health Impairments



# Types of Cutting Edge Students

## ▪ Degree Seeking Students (4–6 years)

- Admitted through the general admissions process. Fills out an application for Cutting Edge and general admissions.
- Receives accommodations from Cutting Edge and Disability Services.
- Takes classes for credit.
- Financial Aid available
- Scholarships opportunities

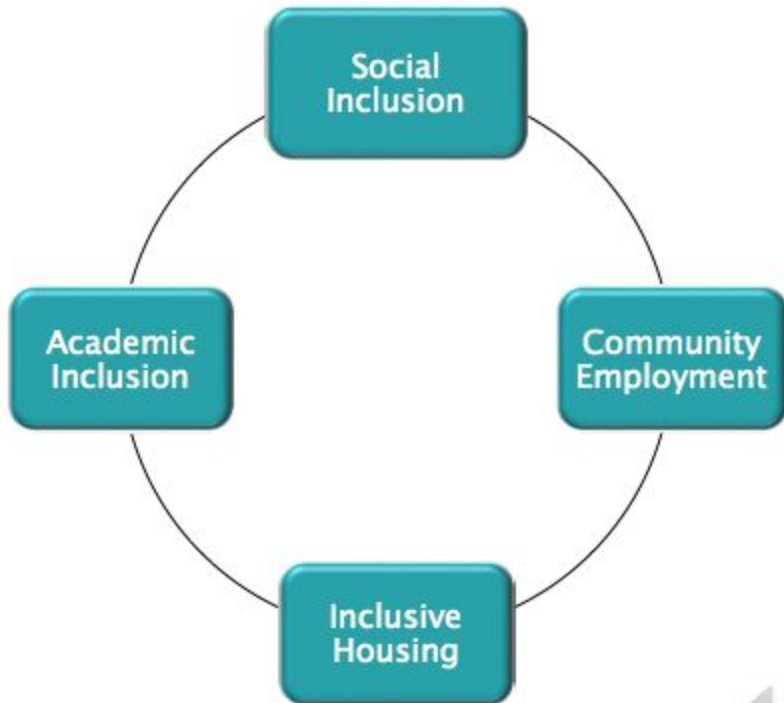
## ▪ Non-Degree Seeking Students (2–4 years)

- Admitted through Cutting Edge admissions process.
- Specialize in a certain content area, develop your own business.
- Some options could include: Education/Para-Educator, Business, Information Technology, Media, Art, etc.
- Admitted through Cutting Edge
- Receives accommodations from Cutting Edge
- Access to Pell Grants
- Scholarship opportunities



# The Cutting Edge Experience

- Students take a blend of college courses and Cutting Edge courses
- Students are immersed into student life
- Students live independently with support (on and off campus)
- Students work in internships on and off campus

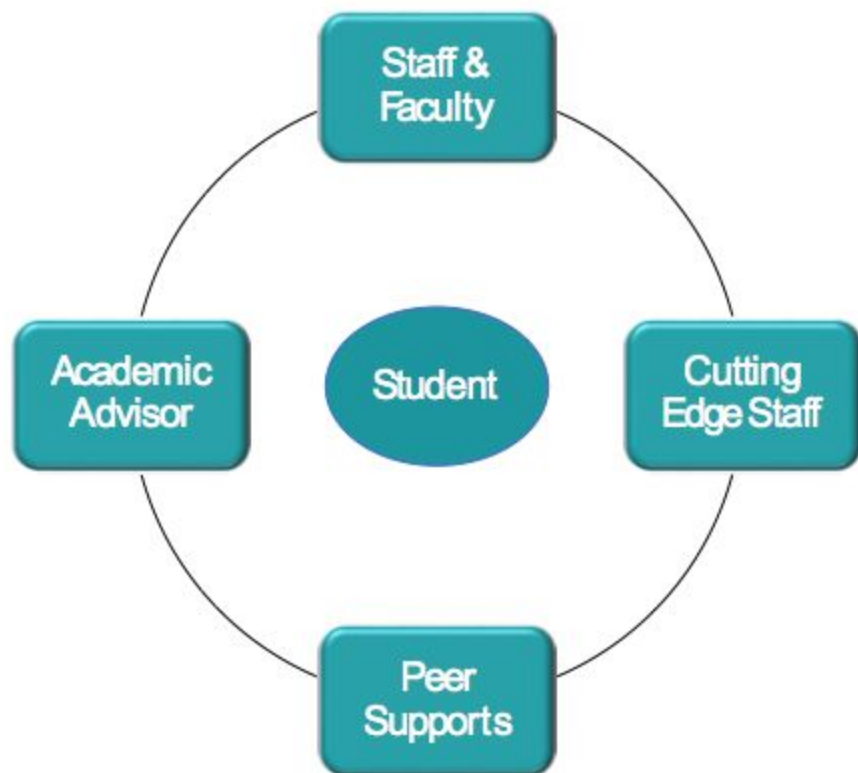




# Internships



# It Takes a Campus Community



# Peer Supports

- **Job Coaches:** Undergraduate students who are trained and paid by the Cutting Edge Program to support students in career readiness by encouraging strong employability skills and work ethic.
- **Course Coaches:** Undergraduate students who are trained and compensated by the Cutting Edge Program to support Cutting Edge students in and out of the classroom with their academic courses.
- **Independent Living Mentors:** Undergraduate and Graduate students who are trained and compensated by the Cutting Edge Program to promote independence in safe and supported environment. These mentors help students with time management skills, roommate relationships, daily living (laundry, hygiene, cooking), emotional support, and self-advocacy skills. They also encourage appropriate social interactions with fellow residents.





# Peer Supports continued

- **Community Engagement Mentors:** Undergraduate students who are trained and paid by the Cutting Edge Program to encourage students to participate in on-campus activities and events in the community. They also ensure that students have plans for the weekend that are safe and appropriate.
- **Health & Wellness Mentors:** Undergraduate students who support Cutting Edge students in maintaining their health and well-being, as well as oversee the use of equipment in the Fitness Center.
- **Volunteer Peer Mentors:** Undergraduate and Graduate students who volunteer to socialize and mentor students in a variety of settings.



# Over 1,000 Peer Mentors



# Admissions Requirements

**For 2021, Cutting Edge candidates should apply in August 2020!**

## 1. Complete the Online Application

(September – November: One year prior to desired start date)

Submit Additional Materials: Essay, Letter of Recommendation, Transcripts, Photo, Complete FAFSA, Current IEP or Re-Evaluation, Parent Evaluation, Two Teacher Evaluations

## 2. Notification if moving to interview

(December)

## 3. Interview Process

(January)

## 3. Letter of Admission Status

(February)



# Funding Resources

- ThinkCollege.net
- Financial Aid (degree seeking students) and Pell Grants (non-degree seeking students)
  - Must complete FAFSA forms
- Eligible families may receive IRIS and DVR funding
- Annual Cutting Edge scholarships





# Program Outcomes & Alumni Program

## Overall Program Outcomes:

- Our alumni are employed 3 times higher compared to national average rates for people with disabilities
- Approx. 85% - Employed
- Approx. 80% - Living Independently



## Alumni Program:

- Began in 2018
- Offers options for support post-graduation
- Events, Case Management, Supported Planning



# Questions?

Contact Caitlynn Suiter Kelly:

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