



CUTTING EDGE™

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

STEP 1



Optional: Attend an Open House and/or Pre-College Summer Program

STEP 2



Email cuttingedge@edgewood.edu to receive application information

STEP 3



Send in admissions materials electronically

STEP 4



Complete FAFSA & Optional Cutting Edge scholarship application

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

September 1st – November 30th

(one year prior to desired entry)

- Contact us at cuttingedge@edgewood.edu to express your interest in applying
- Complete application checklist
- Complete the FAFSA
- Complete scholarship application *(optional)*

December

- Receive interview offer if selected to move forward

January

- Attend Cutting Edge interview

February

- Receive admission status letter

By March 1st

- Submit letter of intent

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Online Application and Fee Payment
- Official Transcripts
- Letter of Recommendation (not family)
- Essay – “Why I Want to Go to College”
- Current IEP & Re-Evaluation
- Recent Photo
- Two Teacher Evaluation Forms
- Parent Evaluation Form

***Submitting the application materials does not guarantee an interview or admission into the Cutting Edge Program.*



IF NEEDED, MAIL HARD COPY OF APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

c/o: Cutting Edge Program
Edgewood College
1000 Edgewood College Drive
Madison, WI 53711

3X
HIGHER



Our alumni are employed 3 times higher compared to national average rates for people with disabilities.

85%



Approximately 85% of our students are employed upon graduation.

80%



80% of those employed upon graduation are living independently.



EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

CUTTING EDGE™

EMPLOYMENT



Students participate in practicums and internships in order to build skills that will lead to employment. At the beginning of a student's college career, their paid internship will be located on-campus. Students also have the option to pair their internship with our Cutting Edge Internship course series to further their understanding of employability skills.

As students gain experience and advance in their coursework, they may transition to off-campus employment in the Madison area. This is a particular focus during the student's final year in the program. Cutting Edge staff partners with the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in order to prepare the student for community employment.

SUPPORTED HOUSING OPTIONS



ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

There are a variety of on-campus housing options, including traditional single and double rooms, suite-style rooms, and apartments. First year students generally live in a traditional residence hall and progress to suite-style rooms or apartments later in their college career. Students living on campus are supported by Independent Living Mentors and Residence Life staff including a Resident Assistant (RA).

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Our long-standing program has developed relationships with community members in the Monroe Street area, including landlords and rental agencies. Through these connections, students may have the opportunity to live off-campus but nearby. Some students find that living off-campus helps prepare them for independent living in the community after graduation.

COMMUTER STUDENTS

Students who live in the Madison area can choose to commute to campus. These students are supported by staff and/or peer supports to regularly check-in and monitor independent living skill development.

INCLUSION ACCEPTANCE BELONGING



PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM

This short-term summer program is designed to provide exposure to the college experience on the Edgewood College campus for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are considering attending college in the future. During this supported college experience, students will attend learning sessions, explore the community, build connections with peers, and may have the opportunity to stay overnight in the residence halls.



ALUMNI PROGRAM

Upon graduation, students may choose to continue to receive supports from the Cutting Edge Program through case management services and/or one-on-one skill development and support. The Alumni Program also offers social opportunities for alumni to connect with other alumni, current students, and the larger Edgewood College community.



608 . 663 . 6869 | CUTTINGEDGE@EDGEWOOD.EDU

WWW.EDGEWOOD.EDU/CUTTING-EDGE



1000 EDGEWOOD COLLEGE DRIVE • MADISON, WI 53711

THE **CUTTING EDGE™ PROGRAM** at Edgewood College was piloted in 2007, making us the first four-year college in Wisconsin to offer a fully inclusive college experience for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since then, the program has continued to grow and offers individualized wrap-around services to support students in academics, independent living, social experiences, and practicums/internships.

ACADEMICS



Cutting Edge students have access to the same courses as traditional undergraduate students. Courses are chosen based on individual student goals as well as input from the student's family and Cutting Edge staff. The student's team develops an Individualized College Plan that outlines their academic courses which meet the needs of their chosen pathway.

CUTTING EDGE COURSES



- Safety in the Community
- Internship Application
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Skills for Success
- Internship Development

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (2-4 years)

This certificate is customizable for each student. With this certificate, students have the freedom and flexibility to choose the courses they take according to their career goals and interest areas. With this certificate, former students have created their own businesses and/or worked in the community in a variety of settings.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE (3-4 years)

This certificate is designed for students who want to work with children and combines hands-on practicum experiences in the schools, while also completing coursework covering theories of child development, diversity in the classroom, and teaching strategies. Students will complete a minimum of 48 credits, which fulfills the requirement for the State of Wisconsin to work in schools as a para-professional. Students completing this certificate may be employed in positions such as teachers' assistants, after-school group leaders, and childcare center assistants.

21ST CENTURY SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE (2-4 years)

This certificate prepares students to work in entry-level positions in a variety of work settings. Coursework includes a focus on crucial employability skills, such as written communication, oral communication, technology literacy, and career exploration. This certificate offers flexibility for the student to explore their own interest areas while also developing critical skills for employment.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE (4-6 years)

A bachelor's degree requires a minimum of 120 credits. All courses must be taken for credit and follow a prescribed degree plan. Please visit www.edgewood.edu/academics/programs for more information about specific major options.

PEER SUPPORTS

Peer supports are built around the student based on their individual needs as determined by Cutting Edge Staff with the input of the student and their family. All mentors who provide peer supports are trained and supervised by Cutting Edge Staff.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MENTORS

The purpose of this support is to promote inclusion and involvement of students in the program both on-campus and in the community. Mentors in this role encourage students to participate in a variety of activities while also advising students in making safe weekend plans.



COURSE COACHES

This support is designed to provide student's academic mentoring while in college. This role also works with students in the program outside of class to monitor assignment completion, assist with the break-down of tasks, and help with exam preparation.



HEALTH & WELLNESS MENTORS

These mentors support students in the program in the areas of health and well-being. They hold weekly sessions on the topics of wellness, mindfulness, and/or fitness. Some mentors also work one-on-one with students on specific goals in the fitness center.



INDEPENDENT LIVING MENTORS

Mentors in this role promote independence in the student's living space through weekly skill development sessions. Sessions may focus on topics such as time management, interpersonal relationships, and activities of daily living (laundry, hygiene, cleaning, cooking, budgeting, grocery shopping, etc.).



JOB COACHES

In this mentoring role, peers guide students in their internship experiences on-campus. This may include modeling job tasks, professionalism, and appropriate workplace behaviors. They may also help the student communicate with customers, co-workers, and supervisors.



VOLUNTEER PEER MENTORS

These volunteers commit to spending at least one hour per week with a student from the program. This looks different for each student, but could include having a meal together, checking-in about social relationships, participating in an activity, or exploring the community.



... it's not just a program, it's a family and I am lucky that I am part of it."

~ Cutting Edge Alum

