Career Skills Institute



Think College!

- National initiative focused on creating inclusive postsecondary education for students with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities
- Think College Illinois is a partnership with state agencies & Illinois colleges to create a blueprint for PSE opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities

State agencies: IL Community College Board (ICCB), IL Council on Dev. Disabilities (ICDD), IL Board of Higher Ed (IBHE), IL State Board of Ed (ISBE), IL Dept of Human Services (DRS)

Think college- framework

Academic Access

Career Development

Inclusive
Higher
Education

Campus Membership

Self-Determination

Career Skills Institute





- Program, started Fall 2012
- 2-year cohort model
- 15 students in a cohort
- Instructors & student mentors

Career Skills Institute Goals-

- Academic skills tied to daily needs
- Self-determination
- Work behaviors
- Career interests
- Campus membership

Campus membership: Harper's code of conduct

- Core values:
 - Integrity
 - Respect
 - Excellence
 - Collaboration
- Promote safety and deter students from behavior that harms, harasses, or threatens people or property

Instructional Components

 Self-advocacy – life-management skills, communication, & social skills

Academic strand- math, reading, writing, & computers

 Vocational skills- work behaviors, career interests, & vocational experience

Two-year sequence

 Year 1 – six course modules focusing on basic academics (reading, math, writing, computers), communication & self-advocacy

 Year 2 – six course modules focusing on career exploration, job skills, & a guided vocational experience

Typical Schedule of day- MWF

9:00 - 10:00 class

10:15 - 11:15 class

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch & social opportunities

12:45 - 1:45 class

Schedule of day for 2020

(procedures in response to the global pandemic)

Blended program

On campus MWF 9:00 – 11:30 for shortened 3 classes

E-learning assignments in afternoon on MWF

Tuition Plan

- Payment tuition
 - full payment
 - installment plan
- Program does not qualify under FAFSA
- Scholarships available through Harper Foundation & private sources

Additional information

Visit - bit.ly/harpercsi