

STRIVE

Skills Training Rewarding Independence and Vocational Education



Your College  **Right Now**

Presented by:
CEWD/STRIVE

What is the STRIVE Program?

- A hands-on, post-secondary vocational development program
- Designed for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities who are in the transition between school and job placement
- Focuses on the skills needed to be a valuable employee for a job that the student both enjoys and finds success



Curriculum Overview



- Fall Semester
 - Communication Skills
 - Career Exploration and Planning
 - Occupational Math
 - Internship
- Spring Semester
 - Customer Service
 - Occupational Safety and Health
 - Workplace Communication
 - Internship

What is the STRIVE Program?

Major areas of study include:

- Portfolio Development
- Interviewing Skills
- Communication and Personal Development Skills
- Occupational Math Skills
- Basic Computer and Internet Skills
- Career Exploration
- Community Awareness
- Workplace Safety
- Volunteer Experiences
- Social Experiences
- Soft Skills



On-Campus Work Experience

- Students participate in jobs on the ACC campus
- Provides opportunities to experience various job environments and tasks
- Volunteer experiences change and vary so students build their skill sets and discover jobs they enjoy



On-Campus Work Experience

Horticulture

- Students work with ACC Horticulture Instructor
- Students plant flowers and vegetables, transplant them into the garden and maintain their own plot in the ACC garden
- Learn about lawn maintenance, pruning and the proper way to feed plants.



On-Campus Work Experience

Physical Plant – Washing the Fleet

- Collaborate with ACC mechanic to properly wash college busses and vans
- Use tools and cleaning products correctly
- Detail interior of vehicle
- Detail exterior of vehicle
- Work toward task independence



On-Campus Work Experience

Blessing Boxes

- Containers located throughout the ACC campus which provide non-perishable food (like cereal, canned soup/pasta, granola bars)
- Hygiene items (including shampoo, soap, and toothbrushes/toothpaste) are also available to any student, faculty or staff that may need them.
- STRIVE students collect and organize donations, inventory the supply and ensure that the boxes are filled each week.



Off-Campus Work Experience

- Students work with a job coach at various businesses near the ACC campus
- A variety of job experiences allows students to explore different work environments and tasks
- Students are able to discover the work environments in which they find both enjoyment and success
- Job coaches are able to evaluate a student in an actual working environment to point out strengths and work on weaknesses
- Collaborating with community businesses is a great way to build a connected partnership
- Business partners are invited to join the STRIVE Advisory Committee to see how we can better serve their business and the community

Off-Campus Work Experience

Brigadoon Farm

- Students do various tasks while learning how to safely care for horses
- Some of the jobs include grooming horses, cleaning stalls, yardwork, and barn organization



Off-Campus Work Experience

Ambika's Place

- Work with the owners to learn more about farm animals
- Complete basic landscaping
- Turning out hay for the livestock and collect eggs
- Observe veterinary examinations



Off-Campus Work Experience

Jack & Jill's Children's Boutique

- A local boutique that sells new and consignment merchandise.
- Students do a variety of tasks including organizing clothing, labeling merchandise, basic cleaning tasks and customer service.



Off-Campus Work Experience

Grocery Experience

- Opportunity to practice customer service skills
- Students stock merchandise and face shelves
- Locate specific items of merchandise to practice personal shopper skills
- Budget for and purchase items to fill the Blessing Box inventory
- Practice proper bagging techniques



Off-Campus Work Experience

Alvin Library

- Shelve and clean books
- Organize the children's section and practice their alphabetizing skills.
- Students also prepare activities for Children's Story Time



Off-Campus Work Experience



Alvin Volunteer Fire Station

- Students help keep the fire station clean
- Help wash the fire trucks and organize the fire fighters' gear
- Communicate with supervisor for daily assignments and duties
- Follow a checklist

Off-Campus Work Experience

Grace Episcopal Mobile Food Pantry

- Giving back to our community is very important to our program
- Working with the volunteers of Grace Episcopal Food Pantry, we box donations
- Organize boxes in pick up line
- Load boxes into cars
- Greet and welcome people



Lunch Club

This student organized club offers students the opportunity to interact with other students on the ACC campus and get to know each other on a social level. It takes place once a month and is an optional activity.



Interviewing Skills

Mock Interviews

- Students are given the opportunity to participate in mock interviews
- Interviews are set up to be as close to an actual interview as possible
- The most common interview questions are practiced and feedback is given for further skill development



Interviewing Skills

Portfolio Development

- Students enhance their computer skills to develop a personal and comprehensive portfolio that is used during the interview process
- Portfolios are filled with information and pictures that serve as a reference for the many skills that are acquired and practiced throughout the student's development, including:
 - Resume
 - Reference Page
 - Work Samples
 - Reasonable Accommodations
 - Volunteer Experiences
 - Work Experiences

Access to Job Coaching



Access to a Job Coach as an advocate during all aspects of getting and maintaining employment, including:

- Application and initial contact process
- Advocating during the interview process
- Assessing and requesting reasonable accommodations.
- On the job training if needed.
- Periodic check-ins
- Job success evaluation

Graduation

Our students are an important part of the CEWD graduation ceremony. This is an evening to celebrate the accomplishments our students have made in completion of the program.



How to Apply

- Complete and submit the program [Admission Application](#)
- Interview with program coordinator
- At least 3rd grade reading level and/or compensatory comprehension skills
- Basic math understanding and ability to use a calculator
- Ability to function independently for a period of time
- Can follow directions, accepts authority; no severe behavior or emotional problems
- Can handle and adapt to change; not overly stressed
- Ability to be successful in competitive employment situations
- Desire and motivation to complete a post-secondary program
- Minimum 18 years of age at the start of the program
- Must have work and/or volunteer experience
- Must have access to dependable transportation

**We STRIVE for
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and
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