Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Program [1]

Taft College

The Transition to Independent Living Program (TIL) is a post-secondary educational experience for adults with developmental disabilities that also offers a residential experience. The program provides instruction, training, and support on a community college campus. The program is comprehensive, with curriculum and training that promotes acquisition of the functional, social, and career skills necessary for students to live a productive lifestyle. TIL began in August 1995, with funding from Kern Regional Center. Taft has offered programs and special classes serving individuals with developmental disabilities since 1976. Staff for the TIL program include administrative, certificate and classified staff. The program maintains a staff ratio of 3:1 and is staffed seven days a week. Instructional hours may vary – a student’s TC/TIL classes may begin at 7 a.m. and may end at 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students are responsible for paying a dorm rental fee which includes meals served in the Taft College cafeteria and all utilities except telephone. Each student has their own dorm room that is supplied with a single bed, 2 dressers, storage area, and a desk. Students are encouraged to decorate their rooms for comfort and style. The students participate in the program an 22 months. The program runs from August 1 through June 30. Staff works with each student to establish realistic short-and long-term goals. Individual Program Plans (IPP’s) are then written with the Regional Center to assist students in attaining these goals. Students are eligible for graduation when they complete the required course work and independently demonstrate the learned skills. At that time, the transition team staff assists graduates in transitioning into an independent living situation in their home community. The TIL program tracks graduates for a 10 year period to assess student outcomes.

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Program Contact:
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Phone: 661.763.7773
Website: https://www.taftcollege.edu/til/ [4]

General

Public or private:: Public
Type of school:: 2-year community college or junior college
Is this program a federally funded TPSID program?: No
Students in this program:: Have graduated or exited from high school
Number of students:: 52

Affiliates
School district or agency partner: West Kern Community College District (WKCCD)
Contact person: Aaron Markovits
Email: amarkovits@taftcollege.edu

Requirements
Accepts out-of-state students?: No
Deadline to apply to this program: None
Link to admissions process: https://www.taftcollege.edu/ti [5]
Requirements for admission to this program:
- Other diploma (e.g., IEP diploma, certificate of attendance)
- 18+
- TIL accepts applications year round. Decisions for the next school year are made by June. full list of requirements available at http://www.taftcollege.edu/ti

Please indicate which disabilities students in this program have:
- Intellectual disability
- Autism

Acceptance, Retention, and Completion Rates
Retention rate: 100%
Program length: 2 years

Cost
Cost of the program: $1,150/month for the 19-20 School Year
Additional costs: $3,000.00
Approximately $3,000 a month is billed to the Regional Center (Department of Developmental Services funded agency responsible for arranging for services to be provided to people with developmental disabilities). Is this program able to provide federal financial aid as a Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP)? No
Students pay for the program in the following ways:
- Private pay (student and family)
- Tuition Waivers
- Scholarships
- Adult intellectual/developmental disability state agency funds
- Federal Financial Aid
- Grant Funding

Scholarships available:
A scholarship is available to cover the costs of the vocational educational portion of fees. Applications available to students accepted to the program and awards are granted on the basis of financial need.

Academic
Students take these types of "typical" courses (with students who don’t have disabilities):
- Typical college courses for credit
- Typical college courses for audit
- Typical Continuing Education courses
More about course access:
Students are strongly encouraged to apply to the college to take classes. All students receive a vocational assessment the first semester they are here. The results of this assessment are intended to be used to assist students in selecting...
career/educational path they want to experience. Some students take regular college courses, others focus on the customized classes offered to all students.

Students take courses that are only for students in this program::
Yes

Time spent only with other students in this program::
Between half the time and 75% of the time

Do students earn a credential of any kind when they complete this program?:
No

Employment

Percent of students in this program have paid work while attending the program::
100%

Other career development activities are::
- Internships

Percent of students in this program that had paid work after exiting the program::
17%

We offer the following specialized credentials::
No, however, the college does offer certificates in things such as Business, Early Childhood Education, Disability Services Education, and more. See the Taft College Website under Career Technical Education for a more comprehensive of certificate offerings.

Housing

Housing is provided to students::
Yes

Housing options available::
- Specialized on campus
- Specialized off campus

Extracurricular

Students participate in student organizations on campus::
Yes

Proportion of time spent only with other students in this program::
50%

Students have participated in these social/extracurricular activities and organizations::
- Taft College ASO
- Best Buddies
- Houchin Blood Bank Blood Drive-organized by students for the Taft College Community
- Special Olympics
- West Side Recreational and Parks District gym
- West Side Recreational and Parks District dance class
- West Side Recreational and Parks District Jiu Jitsu
- Taft College ASO Universal Studios Trip
- Taft College ASO Disneyland Trip
- Taft Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade
- Highway Cleanup
- Community Garden

Please indicate which disabilities students in this program have:
- Intellectual disability
- Autism

Other than the credential listed above, can students earn any other credentials that are available to all students?:
Yes. Students are encouraged to take community college level classes while they are here. They may receive an AA/AS Degree, Certificate in various CTE subjects, or take classes for enrichment. Students who choose to may also take training from the Adult Education program in Taft that offers relevant vocational training programs for community members at no charge. Review course offerings at www.taftcollege.edu [6] to see the programs available to students.

Does this program have a working partnership with VR to provide funding, supports and/or services to students in
the program?:
Yes
Are students in this program able to access support services through your IHE disability services office?:
Yes

Instructions:
In the form below is the information that is currently listed on our website for your program. Please click on each green tab, look over all fields and change any information that needs to be updated. There is no need to save after completing each tab, but you MUST click Save at either the top or bottom of this form after going through and making any necessary changes. You can save at any time and you may save and leave and return later to make additional changes or add new information. Green check marks will appear in the tabs on the left when you have filled out all questions in a section. Please make every attempt to answer all questions--but if you can't, the form will still save and we will use the information you can provide to create your updated record.

Contacts

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About

Think College is a national initiative dedicated to developing, expanding, and improving research and practice in inclusive higher education for students with intellectual disability. It is based at the Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston.

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Source URL: https://thinkcollege.net/programs/transition-to-independent-living-til-program

Links
[1] https://thinkcollege.net/programs/transition-to-independent-living-til-program
[2] mailto:vwaugh@taftcollege.edu
[3] mailto:amarkovits@taftcollege.edu