

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

The state legislation in this table reflects **all legislation that secured funding** for inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE). All were passed successfully by their state legislatures between 2016 and 2023. The icons below are used to classify the type of funding. In total, this chart includes information on 27 legislative actions in 17 states that involved some kind of funding for postsecondary education for students with intellectual disability.



Program Funding: Refers to funding that can be used for program purposes (ex: establish new program, expand programs)



Student Funding: Refers to new state funding that is intended for students with intellectual disability (ID) to use to help offset the cost of college (ex: scholarship, grant)



Expands Access to Funding: Refers to legislation that opened access for students with ID to use funds already available to other college students in the state; no direct appropriations or new money was approved as part of the legislation.

Glossary

CTP: Comprehensive Transition Program

HB: House Bill

IDD: Intellectual and developmental disabilities


IHE: Institution of Higher Education

IPSE: Inclusive Postsecondary Education




PSE: Postsecondary Education

SB: Senate Bill





TPSID: Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with intellectual dis.

Bill Number & Title	Summary of Legislation	How It Is Funded
Alabama		
Alabama HB 554: Related to Veteran's Benefits for Students in CTP Programs Enacted: May 17, 2021	Establishes that any student in an approved comprehensive transition program (CTP) in Alabama whose parent is a veteran with a disability (or deceased) will receive equal educational benefits to students with similar parentage who are enrolled in traditional 4-year college and university degree programs.	 Expands Access to Funding - Expands access for students with ID to use existing state disabled veteran benefits

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

Arkansas		
<p>Arkansas SB 58: Division of Higher Education Appropriation for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year</p> <p>Passed: March 7, 2022</p>	<p>Provides for the Governor’s Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program to assist students accepted into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education. The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.</p>	<p> Student Funding - \$2,000,000 for FY 2022-23 only</p>
Colorado		
<p>Colorado HB 1107: Inclusive Higher Education Opportunities</p> <p>Signed: May 26, 2022</p>	<p>Creates a new inclusive higher education grant program to support IPSE at state institutions. Awardees will be selected by an administering agency chosen competitively by the state. All programs will have to develop inclusive curricula and college experiences that yield credentials and include: Inclusive housing, mentoring, college coursework and instruction in independent living, financial literacy, career readiness, socialization and have a focus on integrated employment.</p>	<p> Program Funding - \$450,000/year appropriation from the general fund for FY 22-23 through FY 26-27</p>
<p>Colorado HB 196: Inclusive Higher Education Act</p> <p>Signed: June 6, 2016</p>	<p>Created a pilot program at University of Northern Colorado, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and Arapahoe Community College. The program is supported through a collaboration between the Department of Higher Education, JFK Partners and the Colorado Initiative for Inclusive Higher Education.</p> <p>Program site institutions must collaborate with Colorado Dept. of Labor and Employment to identify VR supports and opportunities.</p>	<p> Program Funding - Line Item, \$250,000/year for FY 2016-17 through FY 2020-21</p>

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

Delaware		
<p>Delaware HB 326: An Act to amend title 14 of the Delaware Code relating to the Delaware Advance Scholarship Program</p> <p>Passed: June 13, 2018</p>	<p>Created the Delaware Advance Scholarship Program, which provides grants for Delaware students with intellectual disabilities who are seeking a degree or comprehensive certificate at a CTP at a Delaware public higher education institution. Scholarship recipients must be high school graduates with either a diploma or certificate of completion.</p>	<p> Student Funding - Line item, \$40,000 in FY 2019 as part of SB237 (Appropriations for Grants-in-Aid)</p>
Florida		
<p>Florida SB 2500: Appropriations Increase to CTP Scholarship Award Amounts</p> <p>Signed: June 16, 2023</p>	<p>This appropriations bill increased the scholarship amount for eligible students from a maximum of \$7,000 to \$15,000. Student eligibility is detailed in section 1004.6485(7) of Florida Statutes. Eligibility requirements include eligibility requirements for a student attending a CTP in general, and must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress in the FPCTP, as determined by the eligible institution that the student attends.</p>	<p> Student Funding - General Revenue Fund: \$8,984,565</p>
<p>Florida SB 672: Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Act</p> <p>Signed: January 21, 2016</p>	<p>Created a \$7,000 Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) Scholarship at individual public higher education institutions in Florida.</p> <p>Created the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities, which will review reports from FPCTPs and determine creation of new ones with NCC input.</p>	<p>  Program and Student Funding - Line Item: \$95,336,000</p>

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

Georgia

[Georgia SB 246: Establishing State Scholarship for IPSE Students](#)

Signed: April 27, 2023

Original bill:

[Georgia HB 185: HOPE Inclusive Postsecondary Education Grants](#)

This bill encompasses the requirements and procedures of a 5-year pilot of a state-funded scholarship for IPSE students. In the fiscal budget year 2024, \$955,830 has been allocated to fund these grants for the first year. The funds will cover tuition, and may cover fees, for IPSE students. Requirements for eligibility of both the IPSE student and the programs are detailed in the bill. Originally presented to be included in the HOPE Grant, the legislation passed as a separate grant.



Student Funding - Student Finance Commission's budget through Georgia Lottery: \$955,830 for FY24

[Georgia HB 793: FY 2021 Appropriations](#)

Signed: June 30, 2020

This legislation appropriated \$500,000 in funding for inclusive PSE for students with IDD in the FY 2021 Georgia state budget. This continued an annual source of funding set up in 2019, when the legislature reallocated \$500,000 from the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to the Georgia DD Council. This specific funding has been kept at the same level consistently since then.



Program Funding - State Annual Budget: \$500,000

Kentucky

[Kentucky HB 1: State Agency Appropriations](#)

Passed: April 13, 2022

[Kentucky HB 192: State Agency Appropriations](#)




Passed: March 30, 2021

This is the appropriations bill for funding Kentucky state agencies. The bill provides, under the appropriations for University of Kentucky, "\$500,000 in each fiscal year for the Human Development Institute (HDI) for the Supported Higher Education Project". This funds the [Kentucky Supported Higher Education Partnership](#), which works to increase higher education options, access and success for Kentucky students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Program Funding - State Annual Budget: \$500,000
 Awarded in 2021 & 2022.

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

<p>Kentucky HB 94: An Act relating to eligibility for the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship Program</p> <p>Signed: March 29, 2022</p>	<p>This legislation expanded the eligibility terms of the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship Program to include Kentucky students with intellectual disabilities enrolled in a CTP.</p> <p>The Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship was established to help Kentuckians who have not yet earned an associate’s degree afford an industry-recognized certificate or diploma.</p>	<p> Expands Access to Funding - Allows students with ID to use existing scholarship funds</p>
<p>Kentucky HB 158: An Act relating to postsecondary financial aid for students with disabilities</p> <p>Signed: April 26, 2016</p>	<p>This authorized an increase in the amount of Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships (KEES) for students with IDD who enroll in a CTP in Kentucky. Such students are eligible for a \$500 KEES if they are enrolled in at least six credit hours in a term or \$250 if they are enrolled in less than six credit hours.</p>	<p> Expands Access to Funding - Allows students with ID to use existing scholarship funds</p>
<p>Louisiana</p>		
<p>Louisiana SB 192: Provides for the Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund for funding programs for students with ID</p> <p>Signed: June 18, 2022</p>	<p>Established the Louisiana Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund, which will finance the creation of comprehensive inclusive postsecondary education programs at all of Louisiana’s public postsecondary education institutions.</p> <p>The Fund will also sponsor technical assistance to new programs and support dissemination of public information on inclusive postsecondary education options to students with developmental disabilities and their families. The legislation also creates the Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council, which will develop the application process for Louisiana public postsecondary education institutions when they seek money from the Fund.</p>	<p> Program Funding - Established a special fund in the state treasury</p>

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

Maryland

[Maryland SB 872: James W. Hubbard Inclusive Higher Education Grant Program](#)

Signed: May 25, 2017

This established a new program to award competitive grants to institutions that create and implement inclusive pilot programs for students with IDD. Recipient institutions need to develop a program that promotes inclusion within all aspects of student life and ensure that students have inclusive academic access, instruction, career development, campus engagement, self-determination, paid work experience, campus living and social activities.



Program Funding - \$250,000/year FY 2019, 2020, 2021 provided for in the annual state budget.

Massachusetts

[Massachusetts FY 2023 State Budget](#)

Enacted July 2022

Includes provisions that remove barriers precluding persons with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) and autism from participating in state colleges and universities. These provisions ensure state colleges and universities establish guidelines governing selection of individuals with ID and autism as well as course selection. Includes at least \$1.5 million for the new MAICEI Trust Fund to cover planning, implementation, coordination, staffing, and administrative costs to support students in college with services they need to be successful.



Program Funding - \$4 million line item for the Massachusetts Inclusive concurrent Enrollment Initiatives (MAICEI)

[Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative \(MAICEI\)](#)

Established 2007

MAICEI offers grants to college-school partnerships to support eligible public high school students with intellectual disabilities, ages 18–22, to increase their academic and career success by being included in a college or university community of learners.



Program Funding - MAICEI has been funded since 2007 as a line-item in the annual state budget.

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

Michigan

[Michigan SB 842: Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#)

Signed: October 13, 2022

This bill creates a new scholarship program for high school graduates or those who achieve the high school equivalency certificate and qualify under FAFSA. Scholarship applicants must be Michigan residents for at least one year, be a full-time student, and maintain satisfactory academic progress. For community colleges and tribal colleges, the maximum grant award would be \$2,750 per year, for public universities the awards would be a maximum of \$5,500 per year; and for private not-for-profit universities the maximum award would be \$4,000 per year. The scholarship includes students attending CTPs. This legislation is listed here as an example of how students with intellectual disability can be included as new state scholarships are created.



Expands Access to Funding -

Allows students with ID to access newly created scholarship open to students with and without disability

Minnesota

[Minnesota HF 2073: Minnesota Inclusive Higher Education Act](#)

Signed: May 24, 2023



Established the Inclusive Higher Education Technical Assistance Center, as well as grant establishments for program development. The center will increase access to self-sustaining postsecondary education options across Minnesota for students with ID to earn meaningful credentials through degree, certificate, and nondegree initiatives leading to competitive integrated employment, community membership, and independent living. The Center will be responsible for offering technical assistance to all Minnesota institutions of higher education planning or offering an IPSE initiative.






Program Funding -

\$1,000,000/year FY24 and FY25 from the Minnesota general fund




State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

<p>Minnesota 2019: Omnibus Higher Education Finance and Policy Bill</p> <p>Established by the 2017 Minnesota Legislature (Minnesota Statutes 136A.1215)</p>	<p>Grants for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID Grant) provides financial assistance for postsecondary students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to pay for tuition and fees of Comprehensive Transition & Postsecondary (CTP) programs at eligible Minnesota postsecondary institutions.</p> <p>Per statute requirements, the Office of Higher Education submits a report annually to legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy.</p>	<p> Student Funding – Ongoing appropriation of \$200,000/year in state budget</p>
<p>North Carolina</p>		
<p>North Carolina HF 259: Community College Programs Expansion and Program Additions</p> <p>Pending as of August 2023: This bill had not officially passed at finalization of this chart, but was expected to pass.</p>	<p>This appropriations bill would increase the number of programs and funding allotted to community colleges for IPSE programs. This expansion would include opportunities for micro credentials or other credentials that lead to increased employment outcomes.</p> <p>This bill would also require all programs in the University of North Carolina system to submit an annual report on program impacts.</p> <p>Included in this appropriations bill is the addition of a certificate accomplishment program at UNC-Wilmington that will be a Comprehensive Transition Program.</p>	<p> Program Funding – General Fund: \$3.9 Million for community college programs; amount unidentified for new program at UNCW</p>




State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

<p>North Carolina SB 105: General Appropriations</p> <p>Signed: November 18, 2021</p>	<p>This established the North Carolina Comprehensive Transition (CTP) Postsecondary Scholarship Program. The new scholarship program covers cost of attendance for NC students with ID enrolled in current and future CTPs within the UNC system (all North Carolina public universities). Individual institutions may determine the individual size of scholarships to give students based upon need and whether they have received other scholarships that will help cover cost of attendance. Any remaining funds that institutions have not issued in scholarships will be carried over into the coming years to support future CTP students with ID.</p> <p>Also establishes a two-year pilot program at two community college campuses for training programs that provide opportunities for a micro-credential or other credentials that lead to increased employment outcomes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.</p>	<p>  Program and Student Funding - Special Provision: Insertion into North Carolina's 2022 State Budget</p>
<p>North Carolina HB 1105: COVID/Supplementary G.R.E.A.T. Grant</p> <p>Signed: September 4, 2020</p>	<p>This directed the University of North Carolina (UNC) Board of Governors to allocate funds to UNC institutions for up to 100 resident full-time students enrolled in CTPs. The funding begins with FY 2021-2022, with direction to allocate funds each year thereafter. This is the state match for in-state students, which until this bill passed were not included in the FTE calculation.</p> <p>If there are more than 100 resident full-time students enrolled at UNC system CTPs in any academic year, the UNC Board of Governors must allocate funds to each institution on a pro rata basis.</p>	<p> Student Funding - Line Item: Insertion into North Carolina's 2020 COVID-19 response legislation</p>

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

North Dakota		
<p>North Dakota SB 2269: An act to create and enact a new section to the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a postsecondary transitional grant program</p> <p>Signed: April 19, 2021</p>	<p>Establishes that school district payments (integrated formula payments) will be made to postsecondary transitional programs for students who are on IEPs. The state Superintendent of Public Instruction is responsible for reviewing and approving postsecondary transitional programs, and implementing this legislation by administering the payments. TPSIDs in North Dakota will be able to use these payments to cover program fees for students, making the programs more affordable.</p>	<p> Expands Access to Funding - Expands access for school district payments to help with program fees</p>
Ohio		
<p>Ohio HB 49: FY18-19 Operating Budget</p> <p>Passed: June 29, 2017</p>	<p>Extends eligibility for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) to certain individuals with intellectual disabilities. These individuals must be enrolled in a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program (CTP) in order to qualify.</p>	<p> Expands Access to Funding - Expands access for students with ID to use existing grant funds</p>
South Carolina		
<p>South Carolina H 5150: General Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2022-23</p> <p>Passed: June 29, 2022</p>	<p>In addition to needs-based funds for students with ID, this bill included the College Transition Program Scholarship for students attending a CTP. In-state students may receive up to \$5,000/semester in scholarship money, regardless of financial need. If there are unexpected funds, The South Carolina Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium may receive up to \$250,000. Those funds may be used to promote better awareness of CTP programs statewide as an option for youth with ID, through dedicated support for activities such as, student recruitment, development and maintenance of a website, and the provision of strategic informational events for prospective students and families.</p>	<p> Student Funding - Section 3-H660 Lottery Expenditure Account: \$4,105,597</p>

State Legislative Funding for Inclusive Postsecondary Education

<p>South Carolina H 4100: General Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</p> <p>Effective 2013-2021</p>	<p>The South Carolina state budget includes funds to provide needs-based financial aid to students with ID enrolled in one of South Carolina’s CTPs. They are disbursed by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The state budget also allocates lottery scholarship funds to support students with ID who have financial needs and are enrolled in a CTP. Each student may receive a scholarship, called the College Transition Program Scholarship, of up to \$5,000 per academic year.</p>	<p> Student Funding - FY 2020-21 and 2021-22: \$750,000 to support needs-based scholarships. Prior to FY 2020-21: \$350,000.</p> <p> Program Funding Each of the state’s CTPs (n=5) received \$30,000 from the state legislature to support their development and \$50,000 to support their first year of implementation (<i>information provided by program leaders</i>)</p>
<p>Tennessee</p>		
<p>Tennessee HB 1983: Scholarships and Financial Aid – As enacted, revises various provisions governing Tennessee STEP UP scholarships.</p> <p>Signed: May 2, 2016</p>	<p>This act enables recipients of the STEP UP scholarship to apply its funds to enrollment in four-year PSE programs. STEP UP is a Tennessee state scholarship that supports students with ID who enroll in CTPs at one of five institutions – Lipscomb University, Union University, Vanderbilt University, the University of Memphis, or the University of Tennessee. STEP UP scholarships may be up to \$1,750 as a freshman or sophomore; then up to \$2,250 as a junior or senior. Before this act, STEP UP could only be used to support enrollment in two-year programs.</p>	<p> Expands Access to Funding – Allows students with ID to use existing state scholarship</p>

In partnership with AUCD, Think College maintains a list of state legislation related to inclusive postsecondary education. The list includes all proposed bills, including the bills in this document that had funding attached, those that were passed but did not involve funding, and those that did not pass. [View the list of legislation in the Think College Resource Library.](#)