Comprehensive Transition Programs (CTP) were initially described and defined by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. Comprehensive Transition Programs are degree, certificate, or non-degree programs for students with intellectual disabilities that: 1. Are offered by a college or career school and approved by the U.S. Department of Education; 2. Are designed to support students with intellectual disabilities who want to continue academic, career, and independent living instruction to prepare for gainful employment; 3. Offers academic advising and a structured curriculum; and 4. requires students with intellectual disabilities to participate, for at least half of the program, in: Regular enrollment in credit-bearing courses with nondisabled students, Auditing or participating (with nondisabled students) in courses for which the student does not receive regular academic credit, Enrollment in noncredit-bearing, non-degree courses with nondisabled students, or Internships or work-based training with nondisabled individuals. If students with intellectual disabilities are attending a CTP, they are able to use federal financial aid to help pay the cost of attendance.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) (PL 110-315) was enacted on August 14, 2008, reauthorizing the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965. This law covers a wide variety of issues related to higher education. New in 2008 were several provisions related to students with intellectual disabilities, including defining Comprehensive Transition programs for students with ID, and funding model demonstration projects and a National Coordinating Center for those projects.

financial need: In general terms, "financial need" is defined as the difference between what it costs a student to attend school and what they and their family can afford to pay. Student resources are the amount a student and their family are expected to have available for school and is calculated based on the information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. A standard government formula is used to determine the family's contribution. It takes into account the family size, number in college, total income from the previous calendar year, and assets.

clock hour A time period consisting of one of the following: 50-60 minutes of class, lecture, or recitation in a 60-minute period. 50-60 minutes of faculty-supervised laboratory, shop training, or internship in a 60-minute period. 60 minutes of preparation in a correspondence course. (Also referred to as Contact hour)
**full time student:** A student enrolled for 12 or more semester credits, or 12 or more quarter credits, or 24 or more contact hours a week each term.

**Satisfactory academic progress** Satisfactory academic progress (SAP) is used to define successful completion of coursework to maintain eligibility for student financial aid. Federal regulations require the University to establish, publish and apply standards to monitor your progress toward completion of your certificate or degree program. If you fail to meet these standards, you will be placed on financial aid warning or suspension. Your academic performance must meet the SAP standards below.

*Qualitative standard:* Represented by your grade point average (GPA). You must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA to remain eligible for aid.

*Quantitative standard:* This standard has two parts. First, you must complete your degree or certificate program within a maximum timeframe, which may vary according to your student status and program. Second, you must successfully complete a required percentage of the credits you attempt. This component is referred to as your credit completion ratio.