

VOCATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND HIGHER FUNCTIONING AUTISM.

Residence LIFE

THE VOCATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM is one of the few college based programs that offers both vocational training and the opportunity to live in a college residence hall. This unique opportunity affords students with disabilities the chance to experience a college living environment while practicing their independent living and social skills under the supervision of specially trained staff.



The residence hall at VIP is a place for relaxation and learning.

- Staffed by paraprofessional resident advisors who live in the building. The resident advisors are trained in working with people with disabilities, first aid, CPR, and the use of AEDs.
- Monitored by NYIT Security 24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days a year
- Nightly Activities planned and organized by the residence life staff
- Weekly coffee house activities including karaoke, open mic nights, music and more!
- Organized weekend trips to sporting events, concerts, cultural activities, and Broadway shows on Long Island and NYC
- Licensed Nurse Practitioner office in the residence hall
- Television, exercise and game rooms available 24 hours a day
- Free Wifi
- Laundry facilities and a laundry lab on site
- Teaching kitchen
- Single rooms for freshmen* (Based upon timely enrollment and availability)
- An all you can eat meal plan which includes 19 meals a week (Monday – Friday: Breakfast lunch and dinner; Saturday & Sunday: Brunch & Dinner)
- A Student Activities Center featuring game rooms, a gymnasium, swimming pool, and exercise rooms
- A spacious 400+ acre campus on suburban Long Island
- A 9 hole golf course that is free of charge to NYIT VIP students *

* (With a valid NYIT student ID during off peak hours)



NYIT

NEW YORK INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

300 Carleton Avenue
Central Islip, NY 11722

Independent LIVING SKILLS

AS ONE OF THE FEW COLLEGE-BASED TRANSITION PROGRAMS in the country that offers both vocational training and a residential component to the program, the Vocational Independence Program students gain valuable opportunities and skills to increase their independence. The curriculum and the lived experience are designed to maximize a student's sense of independence.

Courses include:

- Budgeting and Banking
- Health and Nutrition
- Apartment living
- Practical cooking classes
- Travel training

Supports to promote independence:

- Daily early morning check-ins at the beginning of each semester and as needed
- Weekly meetings with a budget and banking advisor
- "Design time" evening appointments with resident advisors to review room organization and laundry skills
- If necessary, the assignment of an independent living skills counselor
- Evening check-ins to review laundry, scheduling, and hygiene issues (as needed)
- Laundry lab in the residence hall to teach laundry skills and other room organizational skills
- Scheduled weekly room inspections by staff
- The use of smart devices to create reminders
- Medication management training by a licensed nurse practitioner
- Occupational therapy intern support



Extra-curricular opportunities for advanced independence skills

- Preparatory classes for the NYS driver learners' permit test
- International travel training trips during intercession



SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING & SUPPORT

MANY STUDENTS with neurologically based learning disabilities struggle with the multiple demands of the social setting at college. The Vocational Independence Program has a staff of dedicated master's level counselors and social workers who provide support, training, and referrals to all of the students in the program. Generally, the student meets weekly with the social counselor to review adjustment issues to the program. However, these meetings are tailored to the student's individual needs.

The Social Counseling Team:

- Leads the school in the "Dare to Care" Program – an empirically based positive school wide expectations program known as the "Bears Code"
- Meets with students individually on a weekly basis to discuss program related issues
- Teaches social communication, relaxation, self-advocacy, goal setting, and relationship skills
- Organizes coffee house nights
- Facilitate the fitness electives as well as the Dean's lecture series and pedometer challenge
- Mediate student issues
- Monitors student's participation and engagement in social activities
- Supervise student clubs
- Train residence life staff in active listening skills, and crisis management
- Identify and mentor students to become student ambassadors for the program
- Refers students to therapists and other health care providers for evaluations, medication reviews, and on-going psychotherapy

For detailed information on our programs or to book a tour, please contact:

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