Enrolling in Postsecondary education

- Community Colleges are open access – they do not have admissions requirements
- All other postsecondary educational settings (CSU, UC, private) have admissions requirements including a high school diploma or GED.
- Students generally need to meet the prerequisites for specific courses or programs. Most colleges have a process for placement testing for math and English.
- Limits on repeating courses apply to all students
- There may be limited courses or majors that fit the interests and abilities of students with disabilities

Funding for Postsecondary education

- All students can qualify for the Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver for California Community Colleges based on income level
- Students must receive a high school diploma or pass the GED in order to qualify for Federal Financial Aid – Pell Grant, Work Study, Loans
- Must declare a program of study (major) and make consistent progress through that program in order to maintain eligibility for financial aid
- Scholarships are available to students with disabilities. Individual scholarship guidelines determine whether student needs a diploma/GED or not to apply
- Some community colleges offer programs for students with Intellectual Disabilities that are recognized by the Dept of Education and allow funding without a GED or diploma

Accommodations

- Accommodations are provided to allow full participation in the courses and programs at the college
- Use of accommodations is voluntary for the student
- The student must apply for accommodations and provide documentation of disability and its current impact on student’s abilities
- Students need to coordinate accommodations for each class each semester
- Course modifications or waivers are extremely rare, as are extended deadlines for assignments
- Personal assistance, specialized tutoring, transportation, help with homework, and personal devices are not provided by the college

Life Skills - Recommended readiness criteria for support services and special instruction

- Potential to benefit from instruction in a group setting
- Ability to do simple work independently with some cues/assistance. Sufficient independent living skills to allow independent on-campus functioning, unless routinely accompanied by a personal assistant to perform necessary ADL functions.
- Ability to follow directions and to attend to learning tasks for a reasonable period of time
- Ability to perform meaningful classroom activities, using some form of both receptive and expressive language