College Link

Our Mission: to facilitate a successful transition for students with autism from high school or community college to the four-year higher education environment.

Our Goal: to assist students in leveraging their individual strengths to promote academic and social success. The College Link Program (CLP) philosophy is to increase student independence, and decrease dependence on familial and coaching support over the course of a student’s education.

The CLP staff fosters educational, career, social, and independent living experiences through a creative approach to individual student needs.
THE COLLEGE LINK PROGRAM AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

We support independent living, and individual aspirations for educational, academic, career, and social skill development.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The College Link Program (CLP) provides specialized support services not currently covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). CLP provides support in academics, socialization, independent-living skills in housing, and career development. Below are more services that CLP offers:

Intake: A comprehensive process involving student, family, and university professionals to establish individual goals and monitoring. CLP will establish a privacy agreement with the student to share relevant information with parents and instructors.

Transition: Collaborative support from high school or a community college to the four-year institution. This includes pre-service meetings and development of a university education plan (UEP) prior to the start of coursework at CSUEB.

Academic: CLP Coaches help organize and monitor coursework completion. Coaches act as liaisons between students and faculty. The coaches monitor course syllabi, communication with instructors, and daily coursework through Blackboard. Coaches may shadow students in the classroom to monitor appropriate classroom skills as needed (i.e. to prompt students in class participation, group work, or to address individual learning or behavioral needs).

Individual Support: We provide one-on-one support to address academic time management, organization, wellness support, independent living skills, and career planning.

Group Structure and Support: Coaches facilitate opportunities for social engagement with peers in the College Link Program, campus life, and the larger community.

Conversation Club: In collaboration with the Speech and Communicative Disorders Clinic, Conversation Club is a social skills group focusing on coaching students with ASD on specific social skills that are essential for success within a university setting and beyond. Facilitated by speech pathologists, the Conversation Club offers opportunities for socialization with peers and participation in campus recreational events. Developed by Dr. Shubha Kashinath in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, the club aims to create an inclusive student-focused group to address specific social pragmatic goals for students with ASD enrolled in CLP.

Independent Living: Coaches work closely with students to develop the various independent-living skills such as time management, organization, scheduling, and more, that students will need to succeed in college. For students that decide to live on campus, coaches support students by facilitating weekly roommate meetings, monitoring daily independent-living skills (i.e. hygiene, laundry, etc.), and demonstrating safety drills.

CLP facilitates various social outings throughout the quarter that enable students to travel to Bay Area destinations using public transportation.

Career Goals: CLP offers assistance in defining a desired career path. Coaches coordinate campus resources such as Academic Advising and Career Education (ACCE) or Work-Ability IV (WA-IV) programs, as appropriate, to facilitate resume writing and interview skills. CLP also assists with volunteer, internship, and job opportunities to help students excel in the work environment.

HOW TO ENROLL

Upon acceptance to CSUEB, students who register with Accessibility Services will receive a referral to the College Link Program if appropriate. Students and families should visit the CSUEB campus before the registration deadline, approximately one year prior to enrollment. Visit csueastbay.edu/admission/app.