

## POST-SECONDARY: Job Training/College/Work

1. Sept. 2010 press release from U.S. Dept. of Education announcing \$10.9 million in awards to help students living with intellectual disabilities transition to post-secondary education:  
<http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-secretary-education-duncan-announces-109-million-awards-under-new-programs>

In TX, Houston Community College received one of these grant awards for the Vocational Advancement and Social Skills Training (V.A.S.T.) Program about which information is given at website below

<http://central.hccs.edu/central/career-technology/human-development-life-skills/occupational-life-skills/program-information/vast-department-of-occupational-life-skills>

2. AspFi's College Resource Guide – a directory of college's and universities and their services for college students on the autism spectrum and a DVD on success in college can be found at the website below

[www.aspfi.org](http://www.aspfi.org)

3. Reference Points, administered by the Pacer Center as part of TATRA Project funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration, to which one can subscribe for updated postsecondary news at <http://www.pacer.org/tatra/list/index.asp> also lists the following websites regarding postsecondary scholarships/student aid

REFERENCE POINTS Financial Aid Resources

### JOSHUA O'NEILL & ZESHAN TABANI ENRICHMENT FUND

This fund offers financial assistance to young adults with Down syndrome who want to enroll in postsecondary programs or take classes that will help them with employment, independent living and life skills. To date, over thirty students have received grants from the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) to help cover the costs of pursuing their postsecondary education and enrichment goals. More information is available at <http://www.ndss.org/>

APPLICATION DEADLINE: is usually in July of each year:

<http://www.thinkcollege.net/may-2011/enrichment-fund>

### AUTISM SOCIETY AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

The Autism Society of America (ASA) offers various awards and scholarships. Among them is the CVS/All Kids Can Scholars Program, providing a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to a qualified individual with autism to be applied toward the completion of an accredited, postsecondary educational or vocational program of study (e.g., college, trade school, etc.). For more information on eligibility, and to apply, visit: <http://www.autism-society.org/about-us/awards-scholarships/>

APPLICATION DEADLINE is usually in March of each year.

This resource, provided through the 13<sup>th</sup> Chronic Illness and Disability Conference: "Transition from Pediatric to Adult-based Care," is used with permission from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Texas.

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) is now accepting applications for the 2010 Violet and Cyril Frank Scholarship, which supports a graduate level project to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. For more information go to <http://www.apa.org/apf/funding/franks.aspx>  
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: May 15, 2012.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS FOR LATINO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The World Institute on Disability (WID) has a five-year grant to establish the National Technical Assistance Center for Latinos with Disabilities living in the United States, through Proyecto Vision. Proyecto Vision's website has a list of scholarship opportunities for college students who are Latino and who are living with disability, <http://www.proyectovision.net/english/opportunities/scholarships.html>

### COLLEGE FUNDING FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

From DOIT, this guide to funding a college education includes a list of disability-related scholarships and awards. <http://www.washington.edu/doit/Brochures/Academics/financial-aid.html>

### FEDERAL STUDENT AID - GRANT PROGRAM

From Disability.gov, this fact sheet provides an overview of the major federal student aid grant programs. The federal government provides grant funds for students attending colleges, including career colleges and universities. Grants, unlike loans, do not have to be repaid. To access the fact sheet in English go to [http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/Grant\\_Programs\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_04\\_2009.pdf](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/Grant_Programs_Fact_Sheet_04_2009.pdf) ; A Spanish version is available at [http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/spanish/Grant\\_Programs\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_04\\_2009%28es%29.pdf](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/spanish/Grant_Programs_Fact_Sheet_04_2009%28es%29.pdf)

### DISABOOM SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTORY

Disaboom recently launched a scholarship directory for students with disabilities. The directory includes over 125 scholarships. The list can be found at <http://www.disaboom.com/scholarships/>

### ON LINE COMPILATIONS OF SCHOLARSHIPS SPECIFICALLY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

From Michigan State University  
<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3disable.htm>

### FUNDING EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL - FEDERAL STUDENT AID AT A GLANCE

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A quick reference guide and Federal Student Aid Summary Chart that describes various federal student aid programs, who may be eligible and how to apply.

[http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student\\_guide/2009-2010/english/glance.htm](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/2009-2010/english/glance.htm)

### **FROM REFERENCE POINTS, the TATRA Project Newsletter**

**ON THE JOB: STORIES FROM YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES** This resource from the Waisman Center at the U of WI, Madison features youth with developmental disabilities who began working in competitive-wage, community-based jobs early (between the ages of 16-18) and who used natural supports, as well as some paid supports at first, to be successful. It includes the community, employer, school, and family factors that led to the youths' success on the job. For more information go to <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/naturalsupports/pdfs/YS.pdf>

**THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILIES ON THE EMPLOYMENT PROCESS** From ICI at the U of MA-Boston, this “Tools for Inclusion” resource seeks to share people's thoughts and feelings about how their families help them make decisions throughout their lives. Family is important for many reasons: family members can motivate people to work, and can help them understand why work is important. Families can also have a big influence on self-determination and empowerment, helping people develop a real understanding of themselves and their place in the workplace. Their involvement is important throughout a person's life. This resource also includes tips so that families can be more involved in helping people find and keep jobs. Findings and ideas for families are offered for each of the four phases of the employment process, including: The Early Years, Planning for Work, the Job Search, and Making Decisions to Accept a Job. The resource can be found at [http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article\\_id=326](http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=326)

JobTIPS is a free program designed to help individuals with disabilities explore career interests, seek and obtain employment, and successfully maintain it. JobTIPS addresses the social and behavioral differences that might make identifying, obtaining, and keeping a job more difficult for someone. Though JobTIPS is designed for direct use by individuals with autism and other disabilities, this program (including all of the printables, assessments, and videos) is also suitable for delivery by teachers, family members, clinicians, mentors, and job coaches. JobTIPS can be found at <http://www.do2learn.com/JobTIPS//index.html> **[Especially check out the Social Skills Assessment tools.]**

REFERENCE POINTS is administered by PACER Center <http://www.PACER.org> as a technical assistance activity of the TATRA Project. The TATRA Project is funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

To SUBSCRIBE to REFERENCE POINTS go to <http://www.pacer.org/tatra/list/index.asp>

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition website offers a wealth of information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities

<http://www.ncset.org/>

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The Down Syndrome Assn. of Houston offers an Education for Life Program. Information can be found at

[http://www.dsah.org/DSAH\\_Programs.htm](http://www.dsah.org/DSAH_Programs.htm)

Texas Centers for Independent Living Directory listing by Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services of these centers located across Texas can be found at

[http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/directory\\_cil.shtml](http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/directory_cil.shtml)

The Houston Center for Independent Living, affiliated with these Texas Centers, offers work incentives planning and assistance programs, information on social security administration rules, computer skills classes, emergency preparedness classes, etc. Information on these programs can be found at

<http://www.hcil.cc/WIPA/incentives.html>

<http://www.coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com/>

Training for adults and families regarding job training, laws, etc. is offered through Disability101 which includes training for Spanish Speakers and offers a Webcast Library. Information can be found at

<http://www.disability101.org/about-us.html>

Disability Law handbook can be downloaded for free from

<http://www.swdbtac.org/html/publications/dlh/disabilitylawhandbook.pdf>

National, state, Houston information (including self-advocacy training) from Jobs for Progress can be found at

<http://www.ser-national.org/>

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/SS/oas1.html>

<http://www.serhouston.org/>

Below is excellent advice for college bound students with intellectual disabilities written on the blog site of attorney Matthew Stoloff which also includes left-column links to information on disability discrimination, etc.

<http://stoloff-law.com/blog/college-bound-students-with-intellectual-disabilities/>

Information regarding the Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Program provided by the CESSI Division of Axiom Resource Management, the Program Manager for Recruitment and Outreach for the Ticket to Work Program:

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<http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-wise-webinars.cfm> (then scroll to May 23, 2012 webinar “Ticket to Work: Free Support Services for People Who Have a Disability and Are Ready to Work”

<http://www.cessi.net/ttw/Region6/>

<http://www.cessi.net/ttw/>

<http://www.yourtickettowork.com/>

<http://www.ssa.gov/work/>

Information from the City of Houston Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities and the Houston Commission on People with Disabilities with the implication that most cities have similar offices and websites for which those in other cities should search for similar services:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/>

<http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/commission.html>

General information from the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment along with a tool kit on registered apprenticeship for providers who work with young people, including those with disabilities:

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/index.htm>

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/categories/youth/apprenticeship.htm>

A bilingual website that offers information on internships, scholarships, grants, awards, graduate fellowships: <http://www.proyectovision.net/english/opportunities/internships.html>

H.E.A.R.T., a program established for the purpose of preparing the participants for gainful employment through an innovative client-managed entrepreneurial venture:

<http://www.heartprogram.org>

Applications are now being accepted for the 2013-2014 **Lily Reintegration Scholarship**. Scholars are awarded financial assistance in the form of tuition, books, laboratory supplies, and other mandatory fees to help individuals with bipolar, schizophrenia, schizophreniform disorder, or schizoaffective disorder attain a certificate or degree from an accredited institution. For more information and to apply,

<http://www.reintegration.com/resources/scholarships/apply.asp>

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