

BPCC's Program for Successful Employment

Our Mission

The mission of BPCC's Program for Successful Employment (PSE) is to empower individuals to live, learn, work, and belong in our community. Given the opportunity and proper support, we believe all individuals can achieve academic success, enter meaningful careers, and enjoy personal growth.

Our Program

BPCC's Program for Successful Employment (PSE) is a person-centered program of study offering students an inclusive higher education opportunity. The conceptual framework for the program depicts four standards as cornerstones of practice: Academic Access, Career Development, Campus and Community Inclusion, and Self-Determination.

In addition, integration with the college system, coordination and collaboration with community stake-holders, sustainability, and ongoing evaluation create a cohesive framework supporting the tenets of the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

The objective of the program is to enable students with complex support needs to transition to independence with peers in a supportive college environment through instruction in and practice of academic, essential, and technical skills. Through practice, students grow and learn how to meet daily challenges confidently as they become productive citizens.

Who We Serve

BPCC's Program for Successful Employment (PSE) is designed for individuals who have Intellectual Disabilities or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and commit to participate in an inclusive community college experience. Definitions for ID and DD may be found here: <https://www.aaid.org/intellectual-disability/definition> and <https://www.thinkwork.org/federal-definition-developmental-disabilities>

Our Goal

The ultimate goal of the PSE is to allow students with support requirements to access an inclusive college experience by belonging in a community where they participate in classes, abide by campus rules, and join with peers in college activities, clubs, and events to prepare for integrated employment and lives. Toward this goal, PSE

preparation includes personalized coaching and support, career exploration, work experiences, and credential completion in career fields chosen based upon student strengths and interests.

PSE Benefits to Students

- Student-centered planning of a college experience to increase independence
- Feedback on academic progress after the 4th, 8th, and 12th weeks of participation
- Academic, technical, and essential skills training
- Ability to apply for federal financial aid without a high school credential and those choosing to audit academic courses (for students with documented ID)

Learning Objectives

PSE students will:

- Live and learn along with typical college peers
- Improve communication skills needed to navigate the workplace and community
- Participate in functional, academic, and technical instruction to learn skills required for integrated community living and vocational success
- Complete work-based learning experience

Our Program of Study

The PSE program of study encompasses a learning experience where adults with support needs are empowered to be independent, engaged, and contributing members of the community. The academic and technical instruction, essential skills training, and work-based learning experiences advance belonging, personal development, integrated living, credential attainment, and preparation for successful employment.

Students interested in applying for entrance into the program must complete the BPC application and contact the PSE Director to schedule an interview appointment. Students are encouraged to do so at least 4 months prior to the start of the semester.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Provide documentation of an intellectual or developmental disability
<https://www.bpcc.edu/index.php/disabilityservices-medicaldocumentation/>
- Be at least 18 years of age within 45 days of the first day of class, retain legal rights, and express personal desire to enter inclusive higher education
- Complete application for admission to BPCC
<https://www.bpcc.edu/index.php/apply/> prior to deadline for registration:
<https://www.bpcc.edu/index.php/fall19/> (For students with ID, a current reading and/or math assessment administered through BPCC Workforce may substitute for an ACT or placement test score)
- Commit to follow the BPCC Student Standard of Conduct
<https://www.bpcc.edu/index.php/studenthandbook-studentconductcode/>
- Navigate college campus independently and manage self-care within 45 days of the first day of class
- Actively participate in integrated classes for up to 90 minutes at a time
- Productively engage in work experiences lasting up to 4 consecutive hours
- Call PSE staff if unable to attend an assigned work experience or class
- Express desire to become employed and present required I9 documentation within 90 days of the first class <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/acceptable-documents/list-documents/form-i-9-acceptable-documents>
- Submit a simple resume and two letters of recommendation completed by individuals who are not related to you (Letter of Recommendation link on PSE webpage and resume help may be found here:
<https://www.louisianaworks.net/hire/vosnet/Default.aspx?enc=vLa15KtdCzQQMP6jrcRdIQ>)

Faculty and Staff

Cindy Heying

Director

D-105

318-678-6334

cheying@bpcc.edu

Wardena Jenkins

Pre-Employment Transition Manager

D-107

318-678-6506

wjenkins@bpcc.edu

Bobbie Brown

Employment Specialist

D-112

318-678-6339

bbrown@bpcc.edu

Karen Ward

Administrative Coordinator III

D-153

318-678-6368

kward@bpcc.edu