



Achieving Educational Goals & Strengths through Supported Education



Speakers

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What is Supported Education?

- ❖ Provides assistance and support to individuals with a psychiatric disability to select, obtain, and maintain their academic pursuits
- ❖ Academic pursuits can range from improving basic literacy to attending a collegiate degree program
- ❖ Utilizes a psychiatric rehabilitation model
- ❖ Outcomes are determined by the individual's success and satisfaction in the chosen educational setting



Mission and Principles

- ❖ *Supported Education aims to assist individuals with mental illness successfully participate in various educational programs and/or training to achieve recovery goals and eventually earn gainful employment in a job or career of choice*
- ❖ **Principles**
 - Recovery
 - Hope
 - Advocacy
 - Empowerment
 - Continuous Support
 - Integration



Program Services and Interventions

- ❖ Collaboration with educational programs and facilities to advocate for student success
- ❖ Individual counseling providing symptom management, identification of educational barriers, and skill development for enrollment maintenance
- ❖ Coordination of educational and mental health services
- ❖ Assistance with successful completion of overall enrollment process
- ❖ Funding advisement and advocacy
- ❖ Direct on-campus orientation and support



Services and Interventions (cont.)

- ❖ On-campus crisis resolution
- ❖ Assistance with proper withdrawal from classes to preserve academic standing and financial benefits in the event of relapse
- ❖ Assistance with resolution of loan defaults to ensure re-entry into an educational setting



Financial Resources

❖ FAFSA

- Federal Student Aid
- Federal Work Study

❖ Grants and Scholarships

- Pell
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
- Excelsior Scholarship
- Enhanced Tuition Awards Program
- New York State Part-time Scholarship (PTS) Award Program

[FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)

HESC.ny.gov



Student Perspective

Logan Atchinson - Certified Peer Specialist-Provisional

Northeast Career Planning Supported Education



Outcomes

- ❖ Individuals report increase in self-esteem, optimism, and hope
- ❖ Increased likelihood to return to an educational setting following a gap in academic engagement
- ❖ Increased course completion rate
- ❖ Higher Grade Point Average
- ❖ Strong participant satisfaction
- ❖ Significant increase in obtaining competitive employment relative to the general population of individuals with a mental illness
- ❖ Psychiatric diagnoses not a predictor of educational program completion

Unger, K., Pardee, R., & Shafer, M. (2000). Outcomes of postsecondary supported education programs for people with psychiatric disabilities. *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, 14. 195-199.



School and Partnership Affiliations

- ❖ Hudson Valley Community College
- ❖ University at Albany
- ❖ Schenectady County Community College
- ❖ The Sage Colleges
- ❖ The College of Saint Rose
- ❖ Siena
- ❖ Empire State College
- ❖ Maria College
- ❖ Educational Opportunity Center
- ❖ Capital Region BOCES
- ❖ Literacy Volunteers
- ❖ Various TASC preparation programs (formerly GED)
- ❖ HCBS Managed Care Providers



Supported Education Consortium

❖ Purpose

➤ To provide regional Supported Education Coordinators, Providers and Affiliates with:

- Support
- Collaboration
- A forum for advocacy

❖ New members welcome!

Questions?

For additional program and service information please contact us!

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Additional locations in Albany, Glens Falls, and Hudson



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