Evaluation Objectives

- Understand supported employment practices in a postsecondary setting
- Evaluate work experiences based on procedures used in the University Participant program

What is the UP Program?

- Pilot program in 2007
- Provides a two year, fully inclusive on-campus living and learning experience for college-aged individuals with intellectual disabilities
- 8 participants attending
- Model demonstration site in NC and one of 27 national TPSID projects
- Satellite programs throughout NC
Five UP Program Components

• Personal Development
• Community Participation
• Vocational Preparation
• Social Participation and Learning
• Course Auditing (e.g. auditing 3 to 4 courses per semester)
• Participants must pay current university fees for auditing courses.

UP Certificate Requirements

• Completion of 1800 hours of learning activities over a four semester period
• Achieve at least 80% of the objectives per semester in their Individual Plan for College Participation (IPCP)
• Recommended for UP Certificate of Accomplishment by the UP coordinator and UP Program Steering Committee based on satisfactory academic progress

Collaborative Partnerships

• Vocational Rehabilitation support/networking
• Campus Recreation Center
• Catamount Clothing and Gift Store
• Cullowhee Kids Preschool at Cullowhee United Methodist Church
• EnTOURage
• Facilities Management
• Greenhouse
• Hunter Library
• Kneedler Child Development Center
• School of Teaching and Learning (Personnel Preparation grant in severe disabilities)
• Student Mail Services
First Hand Experiences

• On-campus internship experiences from WCU UP Participants

Setting Up Internships

• Network with Western Carolina University employers
• Share purpose of internship and answer any questions
• Provide employer with Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and allow them to receive approval from supervisors

Information provided in MOU

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<tr>
<th>Employers Agree To</th>
<th>UP Program Agrees To</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provide 10 hours of work per week</td>
<td>Ensure support of participant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide evaluative feedback about participant's performance</td>
<td>Work with employer to provide on-the-job training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make reasonable accommodations for participant needs</td>
<td>Ensure participant fulfills job responsibilities to the best of his or her ability</td>
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Evaluating performance

- Participants use self-monitoring systems, recording progress on personalized work goals
- Supports follow up with participants and document progress
- Employers complete work evaluations at the end of each internship

Self-Monitoring System for Participants

Self-Monitoring System for Supports
Employer Evaluation

What Employers Have to Say

“This is a wonderful program to support. It provides skills that help develop the participants individual need to be more self-sufficient and encourages involvement in the community.”

- Student Mail Services Supervisor

What Employers Have to Say

“[Participant] has been an absolute pleasure. She has grown tremendously during the time she has spent here. We have learned so much and hope that she has gained some knowledge about the Early Childhood field.”

- Daycare Center Director
Questions or Comments?

Contact Us

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