



Program Overview

Bucks County Community College (Bucks) is offering a transition program for students with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who are college-ready and capable. The AACHIEVE! Program (**An Autism College High School Innovation for Educational and Vocational Excellence**) is modeled on the PDE/BSE partnership with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Autism Support Initiative for Success Program.

The AACHIEVE! Program's mission is to support the goals of the student by assisting in connecting to their strengths, turning challenges into learning opportunities, and finding college resources needed to support the individual student through their academic and vocational journey.

The AACHIEVE! Program consists of six to seven (6-7) courses that are one (1) credit each. The student is billed at the college's current rate for one credit, plus fees, each semester the student is registered. The AACHIEVE! courses are non-transferable and are not covered by financial aid.

Credit Courses

COLL 090: AACHIEVE! College Transitions: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to explore the transition to college from their unique perspective. The student will also explore how this transition affects various aspects of their life. The student will focus on independence, (identity, personal strengths, and self-perception), social skills, and academic or study strategies at the college level.

COLL 095: AACHIEVE! Career & Workplace Skill Development: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to explore the possible career outcomes of community college programming. It will also allow the student to see how that programming connects to their personal interests and strengths. The student will explore how this career planning and skill development affects various aspects of their life. The student will focus on independence and self-understanding (identity, personal strengths, and self-perception as it applies to workforce development), career and academic planning strategies at the college level.

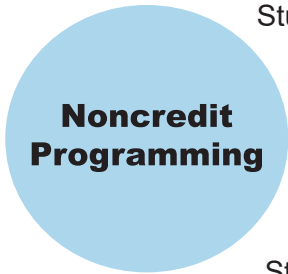
COLL 091: AACHIEVE! Becoming a College Student: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to understand the student role, academic expectations, and social expectations within a college classroom. The student will develop the ability to recognize college resources available to support success in their personal college experience. It will also allow the student to develop and practice self-advocacy skills, which will lead to self-determination.

COLL 092: AACHIEVE! Healthy Choices in College: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to explore the barriers to working with fellow students, professors, and college staff in the college setting. The student will develop the skills to understand their personal stress tolerance and the effects of constant stress on one's individual health. The student will be introduced to the college resources available for support in developing a less stressful lifestyle.

COLL 093: AACHIEVE! Social and Collegial Relationships: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to gain insight into the hidden curriculum of the college culture. The student will have the opportunity to develop and understand personal perception of group situations, group characteristics, and others' perception of the student in order to build healthy relationships. Mindful strategy tools will be utilized in developing awareness of the actions and words of others.

COLL 094: AACHIEVE! Autism in the Workplace: This course provides an overview for the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to gain insight into their strengths and needs in the area of employment. The student will learn to recognize job expectations, hidden-office curriculum, and professionalism in the workplace. The student will have opportunities to participate in the college employment resource Center for Student Employment & Career Development.

COLL 096: AACHIEVE! Internship Support: This directed study course provides the student diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) scaffolded support during an internship. The internship can be obtained through Bucks County Community College, OVR, or through an alternate source. The student will need to provide the Accessibility Office (TAO) with the requirements and duration of the internship. A support course will be put in place to ensure that the student has guided support during the internship.



Students will be provided with embeded peer mentors through the Academic Success Center. This will also provide them the opportunity to participate in any additional tutoring that is needed during the duration of the Program.

Students are also provided with one (1) hour per week support with a Graduate Student at the college. The Graduate Student will also work with students during college activities and upon request. Social activities will be planned to develop social groups and networks.

Students will have the opportunity to explore building healthy relationships, managing groups, exploring clubs, and extracurricular activities. There will be opportunities to participate in college club events and activities. The student will have the opportunity to work with the Center for Student Employment and Career Development. Career fairs, internship exploration, and volunteer activities will also be explored.

Academic Year 2018-2019 Tuition & Fees

Tuition/Fees Academic Year 2018-19	Residents of Bucks County	Out-of-County Residents	Out-of-State Residents	Non- Sponsored
Tuition per semester credit hour	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$450.00	\$180.00
Activity Fee per semester credit hour	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
Capital Fee per semester credit hour	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$10.00
College Services Fee per semester credit hour	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Technology Support Fee per semester credit hour	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00

“The most interesting people you’ll find are ones that don’t fit into your average cardboard box. They’ll make what they need, they’ll make their own boxes.”
- Dr. Temple Grandin

For More Information or to Register, Please Contact

The Accessibility Office (TAO)

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