



AHEAD
ACHIEVING IN HIGHER EDUCATION



... They Can Get AHEAD!

Adolescents across the country are preparing to graduate from high school and as you prepare graduating seniors for college, there may be students who have been accepted into universities and colleges both locally and across the country who may benefit from receiving continued support during their college experience.

AHEAD (Achieving in Higher Education) is a program of AERI Behavioral Health Services that provides support for students in higher education who are diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), Dyslexia, Non-Verbal Learning Disorder (NVLD), or other developmental or learning disability. AHEAD bridges the gap between high school and college, specifically to address challenges in social, communication, and organizational skills, while helping students to develop individualized strategies to manage their college careers independently. Although most colleges have a Disabilities Support Office, some colleges are not prepared to provide the individualized support required for students with certain disabilities.

AHEAD continues to expand across the country, working directly with students on college campuses. Our program complements traditional college accommodations by providing coaching and mentoring support to improve social interactions, self-advocacy, organizational skills, and communication. The AHEAD Model consists of four components: Professional Staff Involvement, Creating Connections within the Campus and Community, Utilization of Campus Resources, and Peer Mentoring. Students are admitted into AHEAD following acceptance into the college or university of their choice and satisfactory completion of AHEAD's enrollment process.

We encourage you to inform families that there is support for students with diagnoses and/or learning differences beyond high school. We would be happy to speak with you about AHEAD, and to answer questions you may have regarding our service. We are also available to speak to parents, caregivers, and/or students at informational meetings regarding college attendance that you may have planned for your student body or classrooms.

Please visit our website, www.ahead.org, for more information about the opportunities we offer to students who are committed to post-secondary education. You may also call us at 1-877-AHEAD-1 and leave a confidential voicemail.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Nicole Jarock, MAT, Director
Catherine Hughes, Admissions Coordinator