

Parent Mentors share ideas and resources with one another on a daily basis. Some tips pertain to school concerns; others target the day-to-day needs of a mom or dad in raising a child.

Terri Goodridge, mom of a young son receiving special education related services and a [Bibb County Parent Mentor](#), files our parents' tips (from around the state) from the past six years in categories, so she can share information.

The following information comes from a variety of knowledgeable parent mentors partnering with families, educators and communities throughout Georgia.

Post Secondary

There are various options for children entering the post secondary phase of their life. Some will go to college, others will get technical training, and others still will seek employment right after leaving high school. However, supports are crucial in order for these many young men and woman to be successful. Here are some resources to help you and your child explore all the possibilities!

- [Rainbow Omega Greenhouse Program](#)

www.rainbowomega.org

This is a residential program for adults with developmental disabilities in eastern Alabama.
(Courtesy of Madeline Griffin, DeKalb County Parent Mentor)

- [Wesley Glen Ministries](#)

www.wesleyglenministires.com #478.471.3711

Established in 1984, Wesley Glen Ministries serves adults with mental disabilities by providing a home environment and continuum of programs to allow each individual to develop skills and greater confidence, living happy, full lives as contributing members of their Wesley Glen family and the surrounding community.

Wesley Glen is a private, not for profit agency and ministry of the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Their goal is to increase public awareness of the strengths and barriers of people with mental disabilities, while being committed to providing services that improve the quality of life for individuals and their families.

Wesley Glen owns and maintains seven group homes and 2 apartments in Macon, one home in Byron, one home in St. Marys, two homes in Lyons, and two homes in Jesup, Georgia. For the current residents in Macon and St. Marys, WGM also provides programs and services, such as individual Service Plans and supported employment.

(Courtesy of Terri Goodridge, Bibb County Parent Mentor)

- [Going to College](#)

<http://www.going-to-college.org/>

This online college preparation includes a portfolio which a student can build to be more

prepared for post secondary education. I have not reviewed everything, but what I have seen, I really like. There are even short videos that students can watch to prepare themselves for each of the sections discussed.

(Courtesy of April Lee, Wayne County Parent Mentor)

South Eastern Colleges and Universities

An Excellent list of South Eastern Colleges and Universities accepting students who have a Special Ed. Diploma!

(Courtesy of Madeline Griffin, Easy DeKalb Parent Mentor)

Alabama

Horizons School

2018 15th Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35205
800-822-6242

www.horizonsschool.org

Admissions: Marie McElheney mcelheney@horizonsschool.org or Dawn White dwhite@horizonsschool.org

The Horizons School is a non degree, post secondary, "college like" experience for students with learning disabilities or other mild learning difficulties. They offer residential support to students as they prepare for an independent life. Two year certificate program with an optional 3rd year transition program.

Florida

On Campus Transition Program (OCT) at the University of North Florida

One UNF Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224
904-358-1200

Serves students with developmental disabilities who are 18-22 years of age and have completed their high school course work. This is a day program for local students.

Georgia

Academy for Inclusive Adult Education at Kennesaw State University

678-797-2036

Program Coordinator: Jill Sloan

jsloan6@kennesaw.edu

Serves students who are Georgia residents between the ages of 18-25 at the start of the program. Two year certificate program. This is a day program for local students. Accepts students with a special ed. diploma. This program is an inclusive college experience.

Cave Spring Rehabilitation Center

7 Georgia Avenue
P. O. Box 303
Cave Spring, Ga. 30124
706-777-2341
Admissions: Joe.Holcombe@dol.state.ga.us

This is a public program through the Work Force Development (WFD) program. The student must be referred by their Ga. Dept. of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation counselor. Staff are skilled in the use of Signed Communications in working with individuals who are hearing impaired. The following programs are offered: Evaluation/Assessment, Employment Readiness, Post-Secondary Training, Independent Living Skills, Driver Education, Counseling and Guidance, Residential Services. This is a Residential program.

Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation

PO Box 1000
Warm Springs, Ga. 31830
706-655-5057
www.rooseveltrehab.org
Admissions: Tina.McClendon@dol.state.ga.us

This is a public program which serves residents of Georgia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The student must be referred by their Ga. Dept. of Labor Vocational Rehabilitation counselor. Program is certified as a "Community Rehabilitation Program" and is accredited by CARF.

Serves students with developmental disabilities. SLD, TBI, blind/visually impaired, spinal cord injury, neurological impairments. Length of program is individualized. Average stay - 9 months. This is a Residential program.

Kentucky

[Stewart Home School](#)
4200 Lawrenceburg Rd.
Frankfurt, KY 40601
Sandy Bell, Director
502-227-4821
info@stewarhome.com

A post secondary academic program for students with developmental disabilities. Students live in dorms and take a variety of classes. A wide number of activities, such as bowling, horseback riding, swimming, golf, etc., are also offered. Each student's program is individualized. This is a Residential program.

North Carolina

Beyond Academics

2100 W. Cornwallis Dr., Suite K
Greensboro, NC 27408
Joan Johnson, Executive Director
336-288-8115
www.beyondacademics.org

Admissions: Eric Marshburn - emarshburn@beyondacademics.org

A post secondary education program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, in partnership with The Univ. of North Carolina at Greensboro. 4 year program. Students live in a typical college student apartment complex with roommates from UNC – Greensboro.

South Carolina

Clemson Life Postsecondary Program

102 Tillman Hall
Clemson, SC 29634-0702
Program Manager: Sharon Sanders, 864-656-0501
ssander@clemson.edu
www.clemson.edu/culife/

Two year program for students with intellectual disabilities who desire a postsecondary experience on a college campus. This is a Residential program.

Tennessee

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities received a 3-year grant from the Tenn. Council on Dev. Dis. To develop and coordinate a postsecondary education program for students with intellectual disabilities at Vanderbilt Univ. Their goal is to launch a demonstration project in Jan., 2010.

For further information contact: elise.mcmillan@vanderbilt.edu

More Tips

- A great on-line resource is: www.thinkcollege.net and you can see a list of schools in the surrounding states that offer programs.
(Courtesy of Jodi Mazzolini, Troup County Parent Mentor)

You may also want to check the website below the link. It's a great resource for students with learning disabilities and college-bound students.

- Do you have a friend whose high school teen has a learning disability? Please, tell them about <http://www.conquercollegewithld.com>
(Courtesy of Taimie Hoffman, Thomaston-Upson County Parent Mentor)
- For some students, going to a community or Technical college is a wonderful route. Either for getting an AA degree and becoming gainfully employed or to transfer into a University.

At a community college, they can often receive individual attention, have smaller classroom sizes and it is much more affordable. Basically, look at all your options and never rule something out.
(Courtesy of Terri Goodridge, Bibb county Parent Mentor)

If you have any information to share, please contact

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