

Lead Applicant/Organization Name: Vanderbilt University, Next Steps at Vanderbilt	
Lead applicant entity type: Institute of Higher Education	
Lead applicant City and State: Nashville, TN	
Select Grant Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring Equitable Apprenticeship Pathways and Partnerships Through Pre-Apprenticeship Leading to RAP Enrollment: up to \$4 million <input type="checkbox"/> Creation of Education System-aligned Pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship Programs: up to \$4 million <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Apprenticeship Hubs up to Registered Apprenticeship Hubs: up to \$6 million for projects with a local/regional or statewide geographic scope; and up to \$8 million for projects with a national geographic scope.	
Project Title: Expanding Apprenticeships for Students with Intellectual Disability in Inclusive Postsecondary Education	
Funding Amount Requested: \$2,324,851.00	
Applicants Geographic Scope of Proposed Project: Local for the RAP & pre-RAP experiences; national scope for the dissemination of materials	
Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs during the life of the grant: 23	
Population(s) to be served: Adults with Intellectual Disability	
Required Partners: (Organization name and entity type)	
<i>Insert Name(s)</i>	<i>Insert type of organization</i>
Vanderbilt Child and Family Center	Employer Partner
Susan Gray School	Employer Partner
Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development – Apprenticeship TN	State Apprenticeship Agency
Nashville & Davidson County Metropolitan Action Commission	Equity-focused organization: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Partner
Optional Partners: (Organization name and entity type)	
<i>Insert Name(s)</i>	<i>Insert type of organization</i>
Think College	Equity-focused organization: The National Coordinating Center that supports postsecondary programs for adults with intellectual disability
Adelicia Company	A video production and media company with over a decade of experience in disability specific filming, storytelling, and module development
Vanderbilt University Office of Learning Innovation	An office within the university that supports with instructional design for online learning
Project Purpose: Adults with intellectual disability (ID) are underemployed yet capable of filling important workforce gaps if they receive appropriate training and education. There is a need to increase credentialing and paid employment opportunities for adults with ID during	

their inclusive post-secondary education program (IPSE) to address employment disparities **effectively**. Paired with the benefits that already exist within IPSEs, our proposal presents a solution of increasing apprenticeship opportunities for adults with ID within IPSE in two ways:

1. The development of additional RAPs and pre-RAPs to create model programming
2. The dissemination of research, toolkits, and best practices regarding apprenticeships in IPSE programs, guided by an environmental scan survey.

Altogether, this proposal provides maximum benefit to the field and the 333 IPSEs serving an estimated 8,000 adults with ID across the country. We are positioned to effectively develop and disseminate this model as **we have developed the first RAP within the field of IPSE in 2021 in Early Childhood Education. Graduates from Next Steps at Vanderbilt are employed at a rate of 93%.** Because of our success in having a RAP as an IPSE and our record as a trailblazer in the field, we have the expertise and ability to develop additional RAPs and pre-RAPS as well as the national standing to disseminate the research, toolkits, and best practices to the IPSE programs across the U.S. This grant presents a unique opportunity to fully develop the apprenticeship model in an IPSE with the intent of resource sharing for duplication at a national scale to meet the needs of one of the most underserved populations, with great impact potential.

Sub recipient Activities: Think College will assist with dissemination of the national environmental scan, consultation in the development of the resource toolkit, and disseminating it once completed. Adelia Company will develop the video modules that will be used for dissemination. Vanderbilt University's Office of Learning Innovation will consult and support with the instructional design of the multimodal resource toolkit.

List of Credential(s) to be awarded

Digital badging and micro credentials will be explored as credentialing pre-RAP experiences. Department of Labor credentials and other stackable credentials to be incorporated into RAP experiences.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

In this project, we will: collaboratively develop 4 new RAPs and expand 2 existing RAPs to be offered in Years 3 and 4 of the curriculum (e.g., K-12 teacher assistant, care economy, information technology, and/or hospitality); Strengthen Pre-RAP programming in the sophomore year of the Next Steps curricula by aligning internships, work-based learning opportunities, and coursework to apprenticeship occupations; Conduct an environmental scan to ascertain the barriers to apprenticeships in IPSE programs; Develop a multimodal resource toolkit for implementing RAPs within IPSE programs. This resource would be disseminated with Think College and our state and regional IPSE alliance. This toolkit will include:

- Detailed Work Process schedules for 6 apprenticeship occupations grounded in universal design principles and outlining accessible apprenticeship programming for students with ID
- Resources for employer outreach and building apprenticeship employer partnerships
- Video modules outlining best practices in the IPSE apprenticeship implementation

Public Contact Information:

Name: Meghan Burke

Title: Professor

Department: Special Education

Address: 110 Magnolia Circle, Nashville, TN 37203
Phone Number: 615-343-1014
Email Address: meghan.burke@vanderbilt.edu