

# LOCK IN FOR COLLEGE



## AT TRAINING & PEER MENTORSHIP FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

APPLICATION DUE  
SEPTEMBER 8

### **Phase 1: *Preparing for College***

Participants who successfully complete Phase 1 will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to be put towards their college expenses!

**Dates:** October 2025 – May 2026

#### **Meeting Times:**

- AT Instruction: Tuesdays, 4pm EST/3pm CST
- Mentor Meetings: Monthly, times determined based on participant availability

#### **AT Instruction:**

Meet weekly with a CATIS for AT instruction, focusing on Windows computer use. You will:

1. Set goals about your own technology training needs.
2. Gain a realistic sense of where your technology skills are and where you want them to be.
3. Get a broad overview of the technology skills most needed for a successful transition to college.
4. Leave the one-year training with a detailed AT Skills Inventory documenting exactly where your skills are now and what areas you need to improve in.

#### **Self-Advocacy & Mentorship:**

You will also meet monthly with a group of peers and Mentors to connect about all things college – dorm life, roommates, making friends, professors, time management, accommodations, study habits, choosing a college, and more! Mentors are blind or visually impaired and either in college or recently graduated.

#### **Program Pre-Requisites:**

- College-bound high school senior
- Experience using a Windows computer
- Can type and has basic understanding of keyboard
- Self-directed learner
- Can commit to meeting times
- Has a Gmail account or can easily get one
- Maturity to collaborate with peers appropriately
- Hand coordination to do key commands with two hands or extensive previous instruction in one handed typing if only can access one hand

## **Phase 2: College Support Systems – Optional**

**Dates:** August 2026 – May 2027

### Peers & Mentors:

Mentors and mentees will continue to meet virtually to support each other through this important transition.

### AT on Demand:

You will have access to AT on Demand twice a month. As technological challenges arise in school, you can access a CATIS through LEAP's AT On Demand program.



AT Instruction will be provided by Allie Fuddy. Legally blind from childhood, Allie Fuddy is a TVI, COMS, CATIS. Allie works as the Program Manager for the Northeast Resource Center for Vision Education at UMass Boston. Allie serves on the subject matter expert committee for the Certified Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist for People with Visual Impairments (CATIS) certification.

Students requiring more individualized support to master a particular skill will also have the option of accessing LEAP's AT on Demand one-on-one certified AT trainers.