LOCK IN FOR COLLEGE

LEAP
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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!

Tuition: $8,600
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:

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

1. Set goals about their own technology training needs.
2. Gain a realistic sense of where their technology skills are and where they 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 their skills are now and what areas they need to improve in.

Self-Advocacy & Mentorship:

Participants 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 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*
Tuition: Determined by individual assessment of participant support needs
Dates: August 2026 - May 2027

Peers & Mentors:
Participants and mentors will continue to meet virtually to support students through this important transition.

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

AT Instruction will be provided by Allie Futty. Legally blind from childhood, Allie Futty 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.