



What is PASSAGE USA?

PASSAGE USA is the University of South Alabama's new, post secondary certificate program for students with intellectual disabilities. It focuses on providing individual supports and services for academic and social inclusion of students with intellectual disabilities in academic courses, extracurricular activities, and other aspects of the University's regular post secondary program.



UNIVERSITY OF
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
PASSAGE USA



Preparing **All** Students
Socially and **A**cademically
for **G**ainful **E**mployment

PASSAGE

Student Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Is between the ages of 18-25
- ✓ Diagnosed with an Intellectual Disability
- ✓ Has some functional communication, reading, & math skills
- ✓ Functions independently in multiple environments without extensive supervision

Program Costs

- ✓ Application fee—\$45
- ✓ USA Student ID card fee—\$10
- ✓ Orientation fee —\$100
- ✓ Program fee per semester
In state—\$5,522
Out of State—\$8,339

*The University reserves the right to change fees as deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees without prior notice.

Student Benefits

- ✓ Students will take classes with, interact with and have job experiences with individuals without disabilities
- ✓ Students will be assigned peer mentors to assist them with their transition to PSE.
- ✓ Students will receive individualized instruction on AEP goals. Instruction will occur in online, classroom and natural environments
- ✓ Internship/work experience will occur every semester



Peer Mentoring

Peer mentors are used to:

- ✓ Support PASSAGE students in social, independent living, academic, and employment/ internship settings
- ✓ Serve as a role models for PASSAGE students
- ✓ Help PASSAGE students develop self-advocacy skills
- ✓ Help PASSAGE students achieve THEIR goals
- ✓ Help PASSAGE students form and foster life-long friendships

All individuals who serve as Peer Mentors will:

- ✓ Participate in Peer Mentoring and disability awareness training
- ✓ Successfully complete a background check
- ✓ Be required to log their mentoring experiences and participate in project evaluation activities



ABOUT PASSAGE USA

PASSAGE USA is a post secondary educational (PSE) experience for students with ID that helps each student achieve his/her goals.

This two- year certificate program is based on individualized Adult Education Plans (AEP) developed through person-centered planning.

The program will focus on the students' gainful employment through academic enrichment, socialization, independent living skills, self determination skills, self advocacy skills, and community engagement.

Students will take 4 or more "courses" per semester. Each semester students will take an Adult Seminar course (which will include individualized instruction on AEP goals) and an employment/ internship class, as well as, additional elective classes with other USA students based upon interests, strengths, and needs.

