CollegeWorks

MVCC | **The Arc** ONEIDA-LEWIS CHAPTER

Students who attend CollegeWorks will:

- Develop marketable work skills
- Learn self-awareness and self-advocacy skills
- Improve communication skills
- Improve relationship-building skills
- Learn the responsibilities associated with employment and living independently

Off Campus Housing

The CollegeWorks program has a limited amount of spaces available in two off-campus residences for students who wish to learn independent living skills in college dorm-like settings. These residential opportunities are currently limited to the Utica CollegeWorks program only, and students must have Social Security Income to qualify.
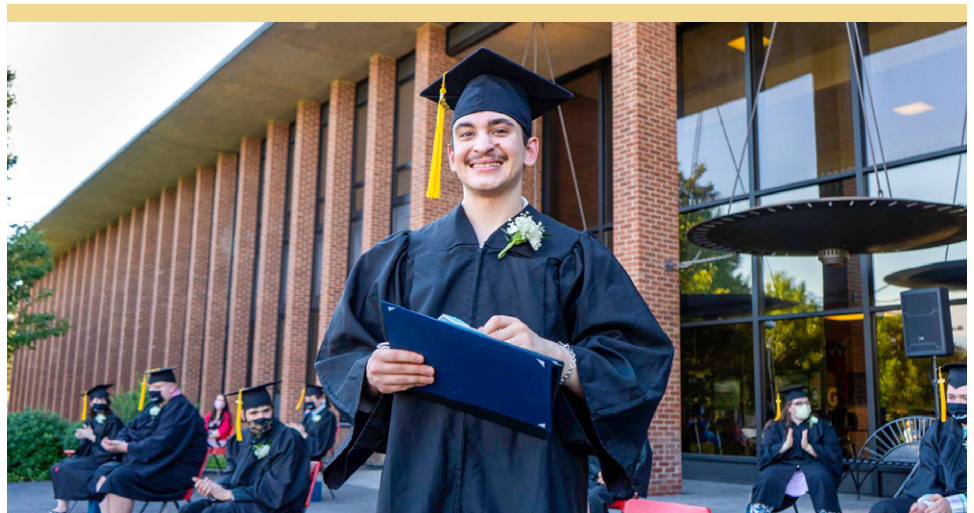
Inclusion on the MVCC campus:

CollegeWorks students receive MVCC student identification when enrolling in their freshman year. This enables them to enjoy the same privileges as other MVCC students, except for student congress and team athletics. Campus events typically attended by CollegeWorks students are:

- Diversity & Global View events
- Sporting events
- Movies
- Clubs
- Intramural sports
- Kids and coaches
- Concerts
- Open mic night
- Lectures
- Library
- Computer labs
- Gym and pool

History

- Opened in the fall of 2005 on the Utica campus of MVCC, and eventually expanded to Rome in 2010.
- The program follows a basic college academic calendar with a mandatory five-week summer session.

Program Overview

CollegeWorks is a two-year post-secondary program for young adults with developmental disabilities located on Mohawk Valley Community College campus. The program's goal is to provide the training necessary for students to obtain employment at the time of graduation while enjoying life on a college campus. This program is funded through the NYS Office For People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Medicaid Waiver.

Eligibility

- For people 18 and over who completed High School (local diploma or other). Must be OPWDD eligible with Medicaid waiver services and Care Management.
- This program is for students who have the demonstrated ability to be in the community independently, adhere to the MVCC Code of Conduct at all times; no serious behavioral needs, and can learn public transportation.

Admission Process

- A completed application with a mandatory two-day visit: one day with the Freshmen class and one day with Senior class, is required. Three written references, school records, PPD, physical and immunization records with an ISP and waiver documentation must all be received before a student can start the program. All students must be able to self medicate in order to attend the program.

Program Curriculum

- **Graduation requirements:** successful completion of Core Curriculum, volunteer requirement, internship requirement, community tour requirement, travel training hours and DGV activities requirement (MVCC campus events). The attendance requirement is built into the syllabus of each course.
- **Core Curriculum:** Encompasses a wide range of subjects pertaining to employment such as Career Exploration, Pre-Employment Readiness; Workplace Behavior; Health and Safety; Workplace Policies and Ethics, Effective Communication and Resume Writing and Interviewing.
- **Other Courses:** Include Public Speaking, Interpersonal Communication, Life Management, Core Life Skills for Young Adults, Mathematics for Every Day, Personal Financial Planning, Personal Wellness, Life After College, Living Independently, Physical Fitness and Travel Training.
- **Volunteering:** The program feels very strongly about the importance of giving back to the community so all students fulfill a set number of volunteer hours in order to graduate.
- **Internship:** Graduating seniors are required to have no less than 20 hours of practicum through an internship. Internship placements are based on the student's field of study and, if possible, at an employment site of their choosing, with a one-to-one staffing ratio.

*For more information, visit **www.thearcolc.org**, follow CollegeWorks on social media, or call **315-792-5465***