

Panel Presentation and Facilitated Discussion: Four-Year Comprehensive Transition Programs for Students With Disabilities

Tessie Bailey, Ph.D., Director, PROGRESS Center at the American Institutes for Research

Olivia Hester, Ph.D., Program Director, Aggie ACHIEVE at Texas A&M University

Mindy Lingo, Ph.D., BCBA, Assistant Director, Sooner Works at The University of Oklahoma

Ashley Bradley, M.S., Director, EMPOWER at the University of Arkansas

Aggie ACHIEVE Texas A&M University

Olivia Hester, Ph.D., Program Director
olivia.hester@tamu.edu



Aggie ACHIEVE (Academic Courses in Higher Inclusive Education and Vocational Experiences) at Texas A&M University

Aggie ACHIEVE is the first four-year, comprehensive transition program (CTP) for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Texas.

Launched in fall 2019, Aggie ACHIEVE is designed with a twofold mission:

- Provide an inclusive and immersive college education;
- Equip young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for employment in the community.

Aggie ACHIEVE students:

- Live on campus among other TAMU students.
- Enroll in TAMU courses alongside peers without disabilities.
- Access to all services offered at TAMU.
- Fully integrate into student life.



Certificate in Interdisciplinary Studies From Texas A&M

Inclusive and individualized support:

- Person-centered planning.
- Academic accommodations and modifications based on each student's learning needs and preferences.
- Employment internships on- and off-campus based on student interest and their long-term goals.
- Aggie ACHIEVE students receive majority of their individualized support from Texas A&M students who volunteer as ACHIEVEMates.
- ACHIEVEMates are undergraduate and graduate students from across disciplines who establish one-on-one relationships with Aggie ACHIEVE students to facilitate the natural inclusion into the broader campus community.



Sooner Works The University of Oklahoma

Mindy Lingo, Ph.D., BCBA, Assistant Director
mindylingo@ou.edu



Sooner Works is a four-year certificate program at The University of Oklahoma for individuals with a mild intellectual or developmental disability.

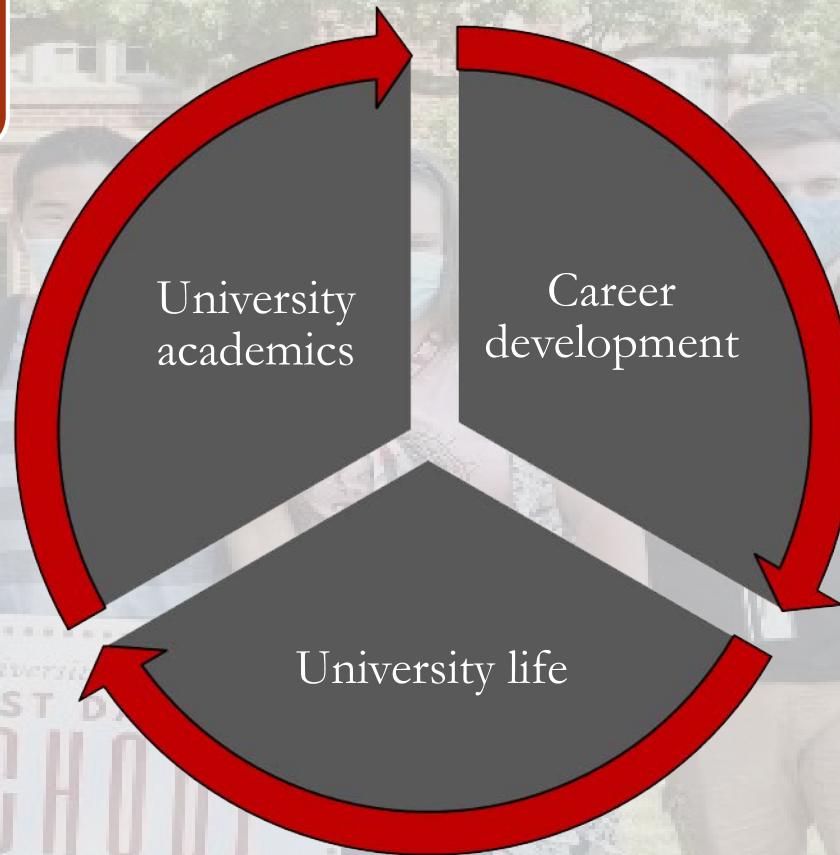


SOONER WORKS

The UNIVERSITY *of* OKLAHOMA

Postsecondary College Experience

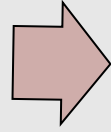
- 4–6 hours of regular OU coursework per semester.
- 3 hours of Sooner Works coursework per semester.



- Peer partners.
- Campus organization and activities.
- Inclusive university housing.

- Internships in job exploration practicums each semester.
- Internships vary depending on students' needs and interests.

Purpose of Sooner Works



1. Meaningful employment.
2. Full community integration.



UPCOMING ONLINE INFORMATIONALS

12/13/2020 3:00–4:30 p.m.
1/5/2021 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Register at:
[Bit.ly/SoonerWorksInfo](https://bit.ly/SoonerWorksInfo)

APPLICATIONS RELEASED:
November 1

APPLICATIONS DUE:
February 1

Soonerworks@ou.edu



EMPOWER University of Arkansas

Ashley Bradley, M.S., Director
arbradle@uark.edu





UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

EMPOWER

Educate, Motivate, Prepare, Opportunity,
Workplace Readiness, Employment, Responsibility

**Four-year, non-degree program for individuals with
mild intellectual and cognitive disabilities**



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Three Primary Goals:

1. Provide college experience
2. Enrich independent living skills
3. Enhance employability

Facilitated Discussion

Moderator: Tessie Bailey, Ph.D., Director, PROGRESS Center at the American Institutes for Research

Panelists:

- Olivia Hester, Ph.D., Program Director, Aggie ACHIEVE at Texas A&M University
- Mindy Lingo, Ph.D., BCBA, Assistant Director, Sooner Works at The University of Oklahoma
- Ashley Bradley, M.S., Director, EMPOWER at the University of Arkansas