Next Steps at Vanderbilt University
An inclusive post-secondary education program for students with intellectual disabilities.

What is Next Steps at Vanderbilt?
Next Steps at Vanderbilt is a 2-year program* that provides academic, social, and career opportunities to help students gain greater self-awareness, employment, and independence.

Similar to a traditional college program, Next Steps students attend classes, participate in recreation and exercise, attend campus sporting and entertainment events, and join student clubs and organizations.

Expansion*:
The Next Steps program is in the process of expanding to become a 4-year program with a residential component.

Beginning in the fall of 2017, 2-4 second-year students will live on campus. These numbers will increase in the coming years to include on-campus options for first- and second-year students. The Next Step staff is also exploring ways to support third- and fourth-year students who plan to live in off-campus apartments.

What does the Next Steps at Vanderbilt program look like?
As students progress through their program, they have access to the following classes and activities, with supports as needed:
- Regular Vanderbilt University classes
- Independent living training
- Internships on and off campus for career exploration and for the development of employment skills
- Individual peer mentor circle comprised of over 7 university students each semester
- Participation in Vanderbilt Best Buddies activities
- Supports in finding, interviewing, and ideally securing paid employment before completion of the program

Admission:
Complete admissions criteria, applications, and important dates are available on the Next Steps at Vanderbilt website (vu.edu/NextSteps).

Contact:
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Graduation Rate = 86%
Employment Rate = 86%