College Autism Network
ADVOCACY | RESEARCH | TRAINING

COLLEGE AUTISM NETWORK

College Autism Network is a U.S.-based nonprofit organization committed to improving the likelihood of autistic students attending a postsecondary institution. The goal of College Autism Network is to increase the number of autistic students graduating from a post-secondary institution and to better the student experience and post-graduation outcomes.

RESOURCES FOR UNIVERSITIES

Improving the university experience
Is your institution trying to improve the university experience for neurodiverse students? The link below is a one pager that provides examples of different supports that can be beneficial to neurodiverse students. The chart is especially useful if your university is early on in the journey of developing a neurodiversity program, as it gives general and broad examples, which are a good place to start. It covers academic, social, career, and health / wellness supports.
https://collegeautismnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Support-Types-2017-05-01.png

Statistics about autistic students
The link below is to a short webpage with statistics about autism and why the number of autistic students attending post-secondary institutions is low.
https://collegeautismnetwork.org/fast-fact-1/

Common accommodations and supports for autistic students
The link below is to a short webpage about common academic, social, and sensory supports that are helpful to autistic and neurodiverse students. While the list is not comprehensive, it covers supports that are frequently asked for by students and can help foster a more inclusive and comfortable environment for neurodiverse students.
https://collegeautismnetwork.org/fastfact7/

Staff training
Is your university wanting to train your staff about neurodiversity? Staff training is important to ensure neurodiverse students feel comfortable and have the support they need to succeed in the academic environment. One method of training staff about neurodiversity is to work through scenarios. The link below is to case studies that your university could include in a workshop. It also includes reflective questions to help facilitate a group discussion.
https://collegeautismnetwork.org/training/casestudies/