

Education

Spokane Community Colleges

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“Disability Support Services (DSS) is a campus program for students with disabilities. DSS ensures that SFCC programs, services, and facilities are accessible, as required by the American Disabilities Act (ADA). DSS determines and implements reasonable and appropriate accommodations and academic adjustments to qualified students with disabilities.”

Our disability accommodations are designed to help level the playing field for adult students with disabilities. Examples of disabilities include learning disabilities, as well as medical and psychiatric conditions that adversely affect a student’s learning. Our services include providing in-class accommodations, accommodations on testing (including placement testing) and providing assistance in helping students obtain GED testing accommodations.

Qualification for services: If a student has a disability that substantially limits one or more of his/her major life activities; a record of such impairment, or if it is medically recognizable or diagnosable, you may qualify for academic accommodations.

Website: scc.spokane.edu/?dss Contact: 533-7169
Dennis Johnson, manager DJJohnson@scc.spokane.edu

PACE (People Accessing Careers & Education)

PACE Services is a non-credit program through the Community College of Spokane that offers educational and employment opportunities to individuals 18 years of age and older who have a significant obstacle to employment. The instructional component offers life skills, communication skills, job skills, reading, computer and other non-credit classes to help prepare students for independent living and employment.

The employment component of PACE Services provides assessment, job development, job training and retention services to individuals referred from Division of Developmental Administration and/or Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Please call the PACE office at 279-6033 for additional information or to schedule a tour.

Recreation

East Central Community Center - We provide numerous activities for individuals with developmental disabilities. Among these are a year-round day program for adults, participation in the Community Access program for seniors, and creating new opportunities for youth in the summer. Stop by the informational booth and meet some of our enthusiastic staff members and learn more about all of the programs.

Website: ecspokane.org Contact: Brett Faison at 625-6693 or email: brettf@ecspokane.org

Special Olympics - The mission of Special Olympics Washington is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Washington provides athletes continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympic athletes, and the community.

Contact: Patrick Bryant or email pbryant@sowa.org

Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) - Parks and Recreation’s Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) program serves a broad range of people with developmental and/or physical disabilities by providing year round recreation opportunities. The purpose of the program is to assist people in having positive experiences and developing appropriate leisure and social skills that can be used throughout a lifetime.

Website: spokaneparks.org/index.php/Parks/pate/78/
Contact: Alice Busch 625.6245 or email abusch@spokanecity.org

NW Community Services (aka NOVA) - Community based services. Contact: Don Gillespie at 928-1588
Or email dgillespie@nwcenter.org

Guardianship

The Guardianship Mentoring Program - This program offers the monitoring of guardians that handle the ongoing care and financial affairs of Spokane County’s incapacitated citizens. Information on guardianship. Contact: Ana Kemmerer at 477-2622



Special Education Transition Services & Resource Information for after graduation



Employment Support

Next Generation Zone - The Next Generation Zone is the area's only youth career and employment center. We combine training, education and various support services in one place to set youth on a clear career path. The staff at the Next Generation Zone can answer questions about careers, education, tools on how to find work, resources to prepare for a job search, information about workforce development service providers, training to enhance your skills, employers who are looking for prospective employees, how to keep a job and advance in a career, and aid you in the transition into the adult workforce with employment options.

Contact: Jessica Cato at 340-7800/email:
jessicac@nextgenzone.org

Spokane County Community Services - Spokane County Community Services supports finding employment services for individuals eligible for DDA (developmental disabilities). Contacts: Brian Nichols, County Coordinator, Developmental Disabilities at 477-2029 /bnichols@spokanecounty.org or Linda Devlin, DD Community Employment Liaison at 477-4377/
ldevlin@spokanecounty.org

ENSO - A Spokane County qualified provider of IE (Individual Employment) services. This includes person-centered employment planning, job development, job coaching, and support as you work towards your employment goals. ENSO is also a Spokane County qualified provider of ITA (Individual Technical Assistance) in the form of Person-Centered Employment Planning. Contact: Katherine Titus, Jeanne Loy, or Bethany Johnson at 329-6010.

DVR (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) - Provides individualized employment services and counseling to people with disabilities who want to work but face a substantial barrier to finding or keeping a job. Provides technical assistance and training to employers about the employment of people with disabilities.

Contact: Val Davis 363-4700 or 1.800.637.5627

Skills'kin - Assists people with a wide variety of disabilities to become more self-reliant and economically self-sufficient. Contact: John Lemus at 720-9203 or email:
jlemus@skils-kin.org website: skils-kin.org

Employment Support continued

The ARC of Spokane Employment Services - Our employment services are provided by a team of individuals. A Planner helps gather the needed information for a Person Centered Plan that will involve anybody the individual wishes to be in attendance. The job developer's mission is to take the information put together in the service plan and begin looking for jobs that match the described interests and abilities possessed by the individual at this time. Once a job match for the individual is found, the job coach works with them to learn the job to the best of their ability.

Contact: Les Nipp at 789-8341 or via e-mail at
lnipp@arc-spokane.org or John Lemus 720-9203

Independent Living Support

The ARC of Spokane's Financial Management Program - This program has people that serve as representative payees many individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities. Our services are designed to provide assistance in money management skills, such as paying bills, writing checks, working with creditors, setting up/adhering to a budget, and protecting funds from misuse and exploitation.

Contact: Tracie Thompson at 328-6326 or email
tthompson@arc-spokane.org

Plan to Work - The employees at Plan to Work can provide information about working while receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). Plan to Work benefits counselors are experts in federal, state and local benefits in relation to employment goals. These counselors can explain different work incentive programs and clarify those confusing acronyms so you can understand the process of going to work while maintaining your medical coverage and coming out financially ahead. Website: community-minded.org/plan-to-work

Contact - Ramona Ramirez at 209-2631 or email:
RamonaR@community-minded.org

Spokane Transit Authority Mobility Program - Mobility training is a free program that helps seniors and persons with disabilities gain more independence by assisting them in becoming fixed route bus riders. The trainer will determine the individual's needs and design a training plan, including one on one instruction while actually riding the bus together.

Contact: Delana Newell 232-6303/delanan@paratransit.org

Advocacy/ Support Groups

CORD (Coalition of Responsible Disabled)

Youth in Power Club - This group assists with Independent Living Skills training, real life budgeting, learning to self advocate for accessible affordable housing, health care, education, pre-employment skills, public accommodations, and DVR services. We also work with youth one on one to learn how to plan their future through step by step goal setting as needed.

Contact: Kathleen 326-6355x108 or email
Kathleen@cordwa.info

People First - Self advocacy organization of, for, and by people with developmental and other disabilities.

Contact: Lee Parker at 991-5861/daleeparker@msn.com

NW Autism Center - Supports families or children and adults with autism spectrum disorder in the Inland Northwest. Contact: Jill Ide at 328-1582 nwautism.org

Client Assistance Program (CAP of Washington) - The Washington Client Assistance program, (CAP), is a state wide private non profit that provides advocacy and information to persons receiving or seeking vocational rehabilitation services from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, (DVR), or Department of Services for the Blind, (DSB). Persons of disabilities and their advocates can contact CAP at any time to find out their rights as a client and the full scope of services offered by DVR and DSB. CAP will also help negotiate with the VR agency services or assist in administrative hearings when necessary. More info at <http://washingtoncap.org>.

Contact: Bob or Jerry at 1.800.544.2121 or email
jcap@qwestoffice.net

The ARC Parent to Parent - A support network for parents and siblings. Provides information about resources available in the community.

Contact: Roz Bethmann and Helen Block at 323-6326 or email
rbethmann@arc-spokane.org

PAVE (Partnerships for Action Voices for Empowerment) - A parent directed organization that works with families, individuals with disabilities, professionals and community members in all walks of life and with all types of disabilities. Helping transitions from school to adult life. Contact: Darci Ludwig 570-8512 or email:
dladwig@arc-spokane.org website: wapave.org