

Autism-Specific College Support Programs: National Report



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

September 16, 2020

This national report describes the services and structures of a nationally-representative sample of 60 Autism-Specific Programs (ASP's)* across the US.

Control

42

Public

18

Private

Annual Fees

20
Programs have
no fees

21
Programs can
cost \$5,000+

Level

53

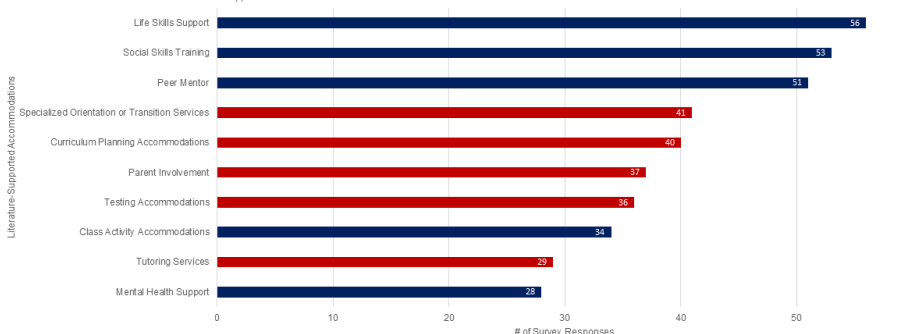
4-Year

7

2-Year

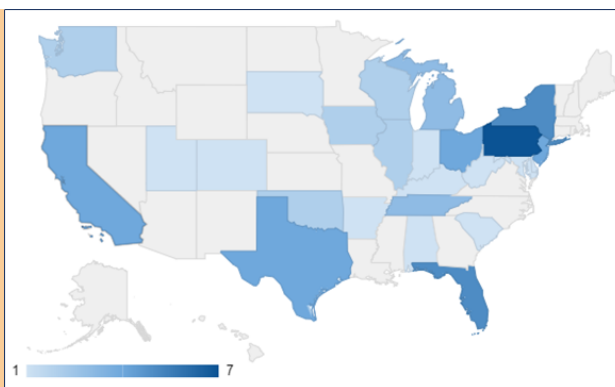
ASP's selected which services they provide out of 10 accommodations supported by the literature.

Number of ASP's that Provide Each Literature-Supported Accommodation



*The red bars indicate the 5 services most supported by the literature.

ASP Survey Respondents Represented 25 Different States



Regional Breakdown

Far West: 6

Southwest: 6

Southeast: 13

Plains: 3

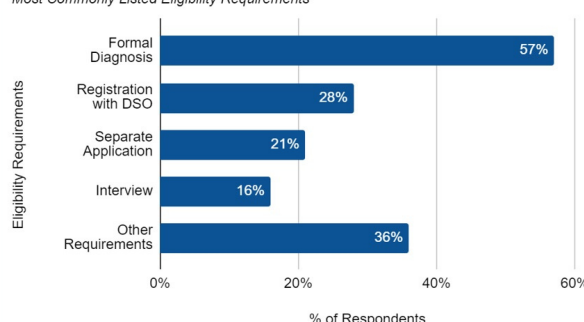
Great Lakes: 12

Mid East: 18

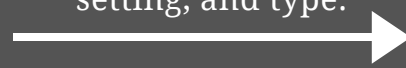
Rocky Mountains: 2

This chart shows the most commonly listed eligibility requirements provided by ASP's.

Most Commonly Listed Eligibility Requirements



The following pages provide further breakdowns of ASP Survey responses by region, setting, and type.



Year Founded

2002

Earliest

63%

Started Since
2014

2019

Most Recent

Year Founded	National	Level		Control		Region						
		2-Year	4-Year	Private	Public	Far West	Great Lakes	Mid East	Plains	Rocky Mountains	Southeast	Southwest
Earliest	2002	2003	2002	2007	2002	2011	2010	2007	2011	2014	2002	2003
Most Recent	2019	2017	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2017	2019	2019	2018
Most Common	2016	2011	2016	2008	2016	2014	2015	2008	-	-	2006	2017
Average	2014	2012	2014	2013	2014	2015	2015	2013	2015	2017	2012	2013

Annual Fees

\$0

Lowest Cost

\$2,927

to

\$4,144

Average Cost

\$18,180

Highest Cost

Annual Fees	National	Level		Control		Region							
		2-Year	4-Year	Private	Public	Far West	Great Lakes	Mid East	Plains	Rocky Mountains	Southeast	Southwest	
Minimum Fees	Lowest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Highest	\$12,000	\$8,400	\$12,000	\$9,100	\$12,000	\$2,100	\$8,400	\$9,100	\$6,600	\$1,200	\$10,000	\$12,000
	Average	\$2,927	\$1,750	\$3,068	\$3,864	\$2,518	\$350	\$2,917	\$3,556	\$2,200	\$600	\$4,049	\$2,800
Maximum Fees	Lowest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Highest	\$18,180	\$8,400	\$18,180	\$18,180	\$15,000	\$8,400	\$9,500	\$10,000	\$6,600	\$1,800	\$18,180	\$15,000
	Average	\$4,144	\$2,800	\$4,306	\$4,993	\$3,774	\$1,400	\$3,783	\$4,859	\$2,200	\$900	\$6,389	\$3,400

Enrollment

0

Lowest Current

38

Current Average

365

Highest Current

5

Lowest Cumulative

112

Cumulative Average

700

Highest Cumulative

Student Participants	National	Level		Control		Region							
		2-Year	4-Year	Private	Public	Far West	Great Lakes	Mid East	Plains	Rocky Mountains	Southeast	Southwest	
Current	Lowest	0	4	0	1	0	4	5	20	17	1	11	
	Highest	365	145	365	108	365	60	108	25	40	60	51	
	Average	38	57	36	33	40	109	20	38	22	29	30	27
Cumulative	Lowest	5	19	5	9	5	10	9	5	25	200*	5	16
	Highest	700	700	500	340	700	700	400	340	200	200*	250	300
	Average	112	269	96	89	122	278	88	90	95	200*	80	99

*Institution that reported 0 stated they do not have a formal enrollment for their program.

**Cumulative analysis for Rocky Mountains Region only includes reporting from 1 school.



Total Services Provided

0
Least Out of 5*

2
Least Out of 10

3
Average Out of 5*

7
Average Out of 10

5
Most Out of 5*

10
Most Out of 10

Total # of Services		National	Level		Control		Region						
			2-Year	4-Year	Private	Public	Far West	Great Lakes	Mid East	Plains	Rocky Mountains	Southeast	Southwest
Out of 5*	Least	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
	Most	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
	Average	3	3	3	4	3	2	4	3	2	3	4	3
Out of 10	Least	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	3	2	2	3	3
	Most	10	10	10	10	10	9	10	10	10	10	10	10
	Average	7	6	7	8	6	6	7	7	5	6	8	7

*Ten total categories of services were identified through a literature review, five of which (in red) had consistent evidence of positive effects.

**28/60 schools also reported that they provide other services in addition to the 10 categories provided.

Individual Services Provided

Mental Health Support

Least Provided

Literature-Guided Services are offered by 48-68% of Programs

Life Skills Support

Most Provided

Percent of Programs Providing Each Service	National	Level		Control		Region						
		2-Year	4-Year	Private	Public	Far West	Great Lakes	Mid East	Plains	Rocky Mountains	Southeast	Southwest
Life Skills Support	93%	100%	92%	89%	95%	67%	100%	100%	67%	50%	100%	100%
Social Skills Training	88%	86%	89%	89%	88%	67%	92%	89%	67%	100%	100%	83%
Peer Mentor	85%	43%	91%	89%	83%	83%	92%	94%	33%	100%	77%	83%
Specialized Orientation or Transition Services	68%	57%	70%	89%	60%	50%	67%	89%	33%	50%	77%	33%
Curriculum Planning Accommodations	67%	71%	66%	72%	64%	67%	83%	50%	67%	50%	77%	67%
Parent Involvement	62%	57%	62%	72%	57%	33%	75%	50%	33%	50%	77%	83%
Testing Accommodations	60%	57%	60%	67%	57%	50%	83%	39%	67%	50%	77%	50%
Class Activity Accommodations	57%	57%	57%	61%	55%	67%	58%	39%	67%	50%	77%	50%
Tutoring Services	48%	43%	49%	61%	43%	33%	42%	50%	33%	50%	62%	50%
Mental Health Support	47%	43%	47%	67%	38%	33%	25%	56%	67%	50%	46%	67%

*Ten total categories of services were identified through a literature review, five of which (in red) had consistent evidence of positive effects.

Top 4 Listed Supervisory Administrative Units

- Disability/Accessibility Services
- Department of Psychology/Counseling Services
- Provost's Office/Academic Affairs
- College of Education

Eligibility Requirements

Top 4 Listed Eligibility Requirements

- Formal Diagnosis
- Registration with Disability/Accessibility Services
- Separate Program Application
- Interview with Program

Methods*

- Surveys were completed in July 2020 by 60 of the 85 programs identified by McDermott & Nachman (2020) for the College Autism Network (CAN).
- Chi-square statistic indicates the sample reflects the distribution of all 2-year, 4-year public, and 4-year private schools hosting programs ($p=.415$).

Authors:
Bradley E. Cox
Cassandra R. Kepple
Courtney B. Francis
Olivia M. Griffing

With Contributions by:
Carly G. Fulcher
Brett R. Nachman

Suggested Citation:

Cox, B.E., Kepple, C.R., Francis, C.B., & Griffing, O.M. (2020). Autism-Specific College Support Programs: National Report. College Autism Network.