

ASSEMBLY, No. 5780

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ERIK K. SIMONSEN

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman McClellan

SYNOPSIS

Directs Secretary of Higher Education to develop career and education guide for postsecondary students with disabilities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/1/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning postsecondary students with disabilities and
2 supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Secretary of Higher Education, in consultation with
8 the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the
9 New Jersey Presidents' Council, shall develop a career and
10 education guide for postsecondary students with disabilities. The
11 guide shall include information for undergraduate and graduate
12 students with disabilities on available resources at institutions of
13 higher education that support both the academic goals and future
14 career paths of students.

15 The career and education guide shall:

16 (1) identify the availability of, at each institution of higher
17 education in the State:

18 (a) disability career centers, career counseling, and placement
19 services;

20 (b) work-based learning options for students with disabilities,
21 including internships, cooperative learning experiences, and
22 independent study opportunities; and

23 (c) accommodations and supports such as note-taker services,
24 exam accommodations, accessible seating, communication
25 accommodations, specialty textbooks and equipment, accessible
26 parking, housing and dining areas, and student groups;

27 (2) provide broad-based career planning information and
28 guidance for undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities
29 on:

30 (a) when, if, and how a student with a disability may disclose
31 their disability with a prospective employer;

32 (b) how to negotiate and request reasonable accommodations on
33 the job;

34 (c) workers' rights for employees with disabilities; and

35 (d) assistive technologies and other supports available to
36 accommodate persons in the workplace; and

37 (3) detail a list of national and regional organizations, including
38 contact information and websites, specifically tailored to meet the
39 unique challenges of job seekers with disabilities.

40 b. The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education shall make
41 the guide developed pursuant to this section publicly available on
42 its website.

43
44 2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after the date of
45 enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Secretary of Higher Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the New Jersey Presidents' Council, to develop a career and education guide for postsecondary students with disabilities.

The guide will include information for undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities on available resources at institutions of higher education that support both the academic goals and future career paths of students. For each institution of higher education in the State, the guide will identify the availability of:

(1) disability career centers, career counseling, and placement services;

(2) work-based learning options for students with disabilities, including internships, cooperative learning experiences, and independent study opportunities; and

(3) accommodations and supports such as note-taker services, exam accommodations, accessible seating, communication accommodations, specialty textbooks and equipment, accessible parking, housing and dining areas, and student groups.

The guide will also provide broad-based career planning information and guidance for undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities on:

(1) when, if, and how a student with a disability may disclose their disability with a prospective employer;

(2) how to negotiate and request reasonable accommodations on the job;

(3) workers' rights for employees with disabilities; and

(4) assistive technologies and other supports available to accommodate persons in the workplace.

Finally, the guide will detail a list of national and regional organizations, including contact information and websites, specifically tailored to meet the unique challenges of job seekers with disabilities.

The bill directs the secretary to make the guide publicly available on its website.