



## **SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

### **WHO**

Colleges and Universities in the state that are committed to launching new programs or enhancing existing programs that will lead to the inclusion of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in classrooms and campus life.

### **WHAT**

Starting in Fiscal Year 2022, Governor Bill Lee and the General Assembly appropriated **\$500,000** recurring funding to the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) to provide grants to Higher Education Programs. The purpose of these grants is to increase the number of inclusive higher education programs that serve students with intellectual and developmental Disabilities in Tennessee.

### **WHY**

With more than 17,000 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Tennessee, DIDD sees a dire need for new and high-quality options for students across the state. To learn more about college options for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, visit the Tennessee Inclusive Higher Education Alliance website at <https://alliance.vkcsites.org/>

### **WHERE**

Grants will be provided statewide based on application scores as well as funding availability.

### **WHEN**

As of July 1, 2021 the funds have officially been appropriated to DIDD. This kicks off the start of the application and award process. DIDD plans to release the grant application in Q3 of 2021, with an award occurring Q1 of 2022.

### **HOW**

Colleges and universities in the state that are committed to launching new programs or enhancing existing programs should begin developing their plan for applying for grant funding. Areas of focus should be around strategic planning, resource needs, expansion of services or creation of new services.