

PEATC  
Parent Educational Advocacy  
Training Center



Virginia's NEXT STEPS Transition Program for  
Families, Youths, and Professionals:  
Building Effective Partnerships and Accessing  
Resources

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Student Voice:  
The Transition to College

About Going to College

- **Funding:** grant funded by the Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. DOE
- **Purpose:** Assist students in developing self-determination skills



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About Going to College

- **Framework:** Adapted from the Self-determined Learning Model of Instruction (SDLMI; Wehmeyer et al., 2000)
- **Design:** 3 phase project



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Phase 1: Focus Groups

- VA college students with disabilities
- Two and four year colleges and universities represented
- Discussed the self-determination skills and strategies they used to remain and persist in their course work



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## Phase 2: Pilot Study

- VCU college students with disabilities
- Fall 2005 and spring 2006, eight, 90-minute sessions were conducted



## Phase 2: Pilot Study

- Topics included:
  - Self-determination Overview
  - Effective Organization & Time Management
  - Managing your Education
  - Viewing Yourself as a Self-Determined Learner
  - Overview of Educational Technology
  - Campus Resources



## Phase 3: Going to College Website

- A free online resource for teens with disabilities
- Also an excellent resource for parents, educators, guidance counselors, and DSS staff
- Assist high school students with disabilities develop the skills needed for college success



## Benefits of Going to College

- Strong student voice
- Important information for getting into and staying in college
- Activities to apply the knowledge
- Create a portfolio to take with you to speak with DSS and other college personnel



## PEATC

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