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ASD Clinic Gift Fund



Please help us increase our services for children and adults with ASD and their families across West Alabama. Contact us at (205)348-3130 if you are interested in making a tax-deductible donation.



The ASD Clinic is part of The University of Alabama College of Arts and Sciences and supported by grants from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Alabama Council for Developmental Disabilities.

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
ARTS & SCIENCES

College Resources

Written for Students with ASD:

Succeeding in College with Asperger Syndrome
by John Harpur, Maria Lawlor,
& Michael Fitzgerald (Kinsley, 2003)

*Aquamarine Blue 5: Personal Stories of College
Student with Autism*
by Dawn Prince-Hughes

Going to College
A resource for teen's with disabilities
<http://www.going-to-college.org>

Written for Parents/Professionals:

*Realizing the College Dream with Autism or
Asperger Syndrome: A Parent's Guide
to Student Success*
Ann Palmer (Kingsley, 2005)

Life Journey Through Autism:
A Guide for Transition to Adulthood
www.researchautism.org/resources/reading

Students with Asperger Syndrome:
A Guide for College Personnel
Lorraine Wolf, Jane Thierfeld Brown & Ruth Bork
(Autism Asperger Publishing Company, 2009)

Written for Parents/Professionals:

American Association on Health and Disability
<http://www.aahd.us>

Organization for Autism Research
<http://www.researchautism.org>

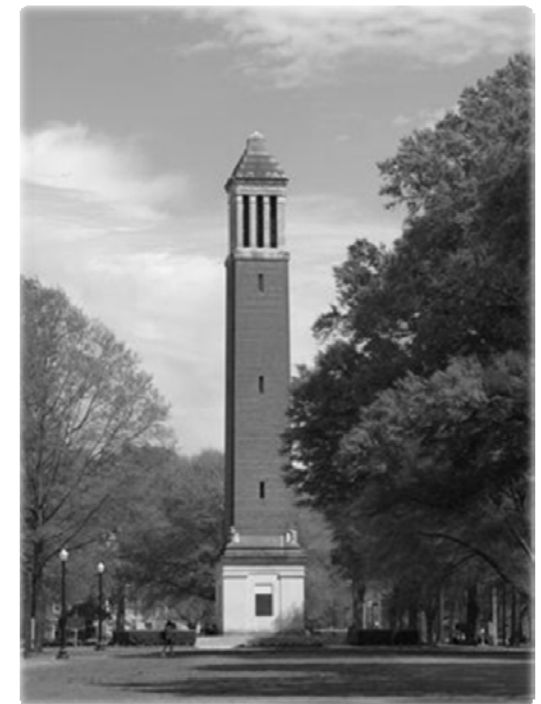
Schwallie Family Scholarship Program
[http://www.researchautism.org/news/
otherevents/scholarship.asp](http://www.researchautism.org/news/otherevents/scholarship.asp)



The University of Alabama
Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic

College Transition & Support Program

UA-ACTS



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Mission Statement



To facilitate a campus environment that promotes an enjoyable and successful college experience for students with ASD in preparation for their future endeavors.

About UA-ACTS

The UA-ACTS program, operated through The University of Alabama Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic, provides individualized services to help students develop appropriate skills for self-advocacy, academics, daily living, and social interactions that will contribute to their success as independent adults. UA-ACTS provides support for the transition into a traditional university campus and toward achieving goals for the future.

UA-ACTS Services

Individual Student Services

The program provides each UA-ACTS student with a therapist-mentor who meets approximately three times weekly with the student to provide services in academics, social skills, and daily living. The program also interfaces with existing support services on campus such as the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), and Residential Life.

UA-ACTS Services *continued*

Academics

- One session per week focused on academics, including organization and planning of study time, using classroom attendance efficiently, prioritizing of assignments, preparation for exams, etc.
- Regular communication with instructors, including monthly progress reports and individual meetings as needed regarding student strengths and weaknesses in the classroom.
- Guidance to help students become self-advocates to ensure academic success, including requesting appropriate accommodations from ODS and using campus services, such as the CTL writing center and math lab.

Social and Daily Living Skills

- One session per week focusing on the social aspects of college life, including interacting with instructors and classmates, roommates, dating, etc.
- Regular communication with parents/caregivers regarding their student's progress and relevant concerns, including monthly update letters.
- Weekly "check ins" for daily living skills, including meeting in the dorm room and checking for cleanliness, etc.
- Assisting students with the skills needed to find jobs after college (e.g., finding work-related experiences while in college, interview skills, accessing campus resources related to job-finding).
- Regular contact with residential life personnel, including RAs, dorm director, etc. to give information about ASD, provide support and education, and obtain information about needs in the dorm setting.
- A representative from the program is on call in case of an emergency. This number is available to only parents and students.

Emotional & Psychological Well-Being

- Provision of counseling services as needed to identify appropriate coping strategies to manage symptoms of anxiety and/or depression.
- Consultation with psychiatrists on campus for students and families who would prefer that psychiatric medications be managed locally.

Admissions Information

Eligibility

- A documented diagnosis of high-functioning autism or Asperger's syndrome (*See website for documentation requirements*)
- Must meet admissions requirements and be admitted to UA on student's own merit

Application

- Complete online application (*Consult website for application deadlines. Student admissions are limited and are based on student and program match*)
- Provide at least 1 recommendation letter from an individual familiar with the student in an academic setting
- Complete an in-person interview with the student and caregiver
- Provide documentation and records regarding treatment and academics

Campus Education and Outreach

The UA-ACTS program seeks to promote awareness and understanding of ASD throughout the campus community through education, training, and collaborations with University programs, faculty, staff, and students.

Program Efficacy Research

In order to provide an effective clinical services, UA-ACTS conducts program evaluation research to document program effectiveness, to contribute to the existing research literature, and to improve our overall understanding of ASD in the college environment.